

# THE LITERARY GAZETTE

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## REVIEWS.

*Isaac T. Hopper. A True Life.* By L. Maria Child. Boston, U.S.: Jewitt and Co. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

FOREMOST in all works of charity and benevolence are the members of the Society of Friends. In them, more than in any other class, we are ready to overlook peculiarities of opinion, and what we may deem eccentricities of practice, in appreciation of genuine worth and active philanthropy. Friend Hopper of Philadelphia was 'a model Quaker,' the story of whose life is an instructive and pleasing example of how much good may be achieved by high principle, kind feeling, and persevering energy, without any adventitious advantages of rank, station, or fortune. In America his name is well known and justly honoured, and we are glad of the opportunity of making the character and works of such a man known to English readers. The biographer has for this end recorded his deeds, "that they may fall like good seeds into many hearts, and bring forth future harvests in the great field of humanity."

Isaac Tatum Hopper was born in Deptford, near Woodbury, New Jersey, in 1771. He was noted as a precocious child, and many anecdotes of his early years are recorded. These chiefly relate to outward adventures, nor did any of the features of his mental character develop themselves till long after, except his buoyant energy and indomitable perseverance. The feats of his youthful mischief and enterprise are not so singular as the biographer seems to imagine, for of many boys in our public schools in England could similar stories be narrated. But the Americans of that generation differed little from their kindred in the old country. We fear that under the routine systems of modern education, and the premature forcing of the mental faculties, there is less scope now-a-days for the natural play of youthful spirit, which gave a wild charm to our boyish days, even though it led to occasional excess of mischief. If the boys of the United States are physically degenerating, we must do the schoolmasters the justice of declaring that they are as a class morally superior to the teacher of Isaac Hopper. We have read of the Spartan training, according to which thieving was honourable, but the discovery of theft was punished as disgraceful. Little did we suppose that in admiration of antiquity such morality was adopted by any republican pedagogue of Christian times:—

"The boys at school were apt to neglect their lessons while they were munching apples. In order to break up this disorderly habit, the master made it a rule to take away every apple found upon them.—He placed such forfeited articles upon his desk, with the agreement that any boy might have them, who could succeed in abstracting them without being observed by him. One day, when a large rosy-cheeked apple stood temptingly on the desk, Isaac stepped up to have his pen mended. He stood very demurely at first, but soon began to gaze earnestly out of the window, behind the desk. The master inquired what he was looking at. He replied, 'I am watching a flock of ducks trying to swim on the ice. How queerly they waddle and slide about!' 'Ducks swim on ice!' exclaimed the schoolmaster; and he turned to observe such an unusual spectacle. It was only for an instant; but the apple meanwhile was transferred to the pocket of his cunning pupil. He smiled as he gave him his pen, and said, 'Ah, you rogue, you are always full of mischief!'

"There was a bridge across the brook consisting of a single rail. One day Isaac sawed this nearly in two; and while the master was at play with the boys, he took the opportunity to say something very impertinent, for which he knew he should be chased. He ran toward the brook, crossed the rail in safety, and instantly turned it over, so that his pursuer would step upon it when the cut side was downward. It immediately snapped under his pressure, and precipitated him into the stream, while the young rogue stood by almost killing himself with laughter. But this joke also came very near having a melancholy termination; for the master was floated down several rods into deep water, and with difficulty saved himself from drowning."

We must pass over the records of these youthful times, till we find Isaac in his twenty-third year, a staid and devout member of the Society of Friends, and married to Sarah Tatum, a dark-haired blue-eyed young Quakeress, who had been his neighbour and companion since childhood. His ancestors had been Quakers, but his father had been removed from the society on account of marrying a wife of another sect. He still attended meetings, and it was by old William Savery, a famous preacher of those days, that young Isaac was first awakened to earnest and serious thought. Friend Savery was a remarkable man, and his name deserves honourable record in English history, as it was through his ministry during a visit to the old country in 1798, that Elizabeth Gurney, the celebrated Mrs. Fry, was first excited to a lively interest in religion. Over Isaac Hopper's mind the preaching of William Savery had similar power, and by it he was led to dedicate himself to the glory of God and the good of his fellow-men. He soon found ways of doing so, suitable to his position and his character. The condition of the coloured people of the States first engaged his thoughts, a subject on which his mind had been strongly impressed by an incident in early life:—

"When he drove the cows to and from pasture, he often met an old coloured man named Mingo. His sympathising heart was attracted toward him, because he had heard the neighbours say he was stolen from Africa when he was a little boy. One day he asked Mingo what part of the world he came from; and the poor old man told how he was playing with other children among the bushes, on the coast of Africa, when white men pounced upon them suddenly and dragged them off to a ship. He held fast hold of the thorny bushes, which tore his hands dreadfully in the struggle. The old man wept like a child, when he told how he was frightened and distressed at being thus hurried away from father, mother, brothers, and sisters, and sold into slavery, in a distant land, where he could never see or hear from them again. This painful story made a very deep impression upon Isaac's mind; and, though he was then only nine years old, he made a solemn vow to himself that he would be the friend of oppressed Africans during his whole life."

The remembrance of the resolution formed after listening to the story of Mingo's wrongs was revived when he settled in Philadelphia:

"There were numerous kidnappers prowling about the city, and many outrages were committed, which would not have been tolerated for a moment toward any but a despised race. Pennsylvania being on the frontier of the slave states, runaways were often passing through; and the laws on that subject were little understood, and less attended to. If a coloured man was arrested as a fugitive slave, and discharged for want of proof, the magistrate received no fee; but if he was adjudged a slave, and surrendered to his claimant, the magistrate received from five to twenty dollars for his trouble; of course, there was a natural tendency

to make the most of evidence in favour of slavery. Under these circumstances, the Pennsylvania Abolition Society was frequently called upon to protect the rights of coloured people. Isaac T. Hopper became an active and leading member of this association. He was likewise one of the overseers of a school for coloured children, established by Anthony Benezet; and it was his constant practice, for several years, to teach two or three nights every week, in a school for coloured adults, established by a society of young men. In process of time, he became known to everybody in Philadelphia as the friend and legal adviser of coloured people upon all emergencies."

The shrewdness, courage, and zeal, with which he fulfilled the duties he imposed on himself, are displayed in a variety of cases, of which the biographer gives interesting narratives. We give one instance:—

"Sarah Roach, a light mulatto, was sold by her master in Maryland to a man residing in Delaware. The laws of Delaware prohibit the introduction of slaves, unless brought into the state by persons intending to reside there permanently. If brought under other circumstances they become free. Sarah remained with her new master several years before she was made aware of this fact. Meanwhile, she gave birth to a daughter, who was of course free, if the mother was free at the time she was born. At last, some one informed the bondwoman that her master had no legal claim to her services. She then left him and went to Philadelphia. But she remained ignorant of the fact that her daughter was free, in consequence of the universal maxim of slave law, that 'the child follows the condition of the mother.'

"When the girl was about sixteen years old, she absconded from Delaware, and went to her mother, who inquired of Isaac T. Hopper what was the best method of eluding the vigilance of her master. After ascertaining the circumstances, he told her that her daughter was legally free, and instructed her to inform him in case any person attempted to arrest her.

"Her claimant soon discovered her place of abode, and in the summer of 1806 went in pursuit of her. Being aware that his claim had no foundation in law, he did not attempt to establish it before any magistrate, but seized the girl and hurried her on board a sloop, that lay near Spruce-street wharf, unloading staves. Fearing she would be wrested from him by the city authorities, he removed the vessel from the wharf, and anchored near an island between Philadelphia and New Jersey. A boat was placed alongside the sloop, into which the cargo was unloaded and carried to the wharf they had left.

"The mother went to Isaac T. Hopper in great distress, and informed him of the transaction. He immediately made application to an alderman, who issued a process to have the girl brought before him. Guided by two coloured men, who had followed her when she was carried off, he immediately proceeded to the sloop, accompanied by an officer. When the claimant saw them approaching, he went into the cabin for his gun, and threatened them with instant death if they came near his vessel. Friend Hopper quietly told the men to go ahead and pay no attention to his threats. When they moored their boat alongside of the one into which they were unloading staves, he became very vociferous, and pointing his gun at Friend Hopper's breast, swore he should not enter the vessel.

"He replied, 'I have an officer with me, and I have authority from a magistrate to bring before him a girl now in thy vessel. I think we are prepared to show that she is free.'

"The man still kept his gun pointed, and told them to beware how they attempted to come on board.

"If thou shouldst injure any person, it would be impossible for thee to escape, replied Friend Hopper; 'for thou art a hundred and twenty miles from the Capes, with hundreds of people on the wharf to witness thy deed.'

"While speaking thus, he advanced toward him

until he came near enough to seize hold of the gun and turn it aside. The man made a violent jerk to wrest the weapon from him, and still clinging fast hold of it he was pulled on board. In the scuffle to regain possession of the gun, the man trod upon a roller on the deck, lost his balance, and fell sprawling on his back. Friend Hopper seized that opportunity to throw the gun overboard. Whereupon, a sailor near by seized an axe and came toward him in a great rage. Even if the courageous Quaker had wished to escape, there was no chance to do so. He advanced to meet the sailor, and looking him full in the face said, 'Thou foolish fellow, dost thou think to frighten me with that axe, when thy companion could not do it with his gun? Put the axe down. Thou art resisting legal authority, and liable to suffer severely for thy conduct.'

"In a short time they became more moderate, but denied that the girl was on board. The vessel was nearly emptied of her cargo, and Friend Hopper peeping into the hold found her stowed away in a remote part of it. He brought her on deck and took her with him into the boat, of which his companions, including the constable, had retained possession."

The biographer tells us that the narratives and anecdotes of fugitive slaves, which form a prominent portion of the book, were originally written by Friend Hopper himself, and published in newspapers under the title of 'Tales of Oppression.' They are here remodelled, generally abridged, and thrown into the narrative form. But their authenticity may be relied on, and the facts are all obtained from the personal testimony of those who took part in the scenes:—

"The facts, which were continually occurring within Friend Hopper's personal knowledge, corroborate the pictures of slavery drawn by Mrs. Stowe. Her descriptions are no more fictitious than the narratives written by Friend Hopper. She has taken living characters and facts of everyday occurrence, and combined them in a connected story, radiant with the light of genius, and warm with the glow of feeling. But is a landscape any the less real, because there is sunshine on it, to bring out every tint, and make every dew-drop sparkle? Who that reads the account here given of Daniel Benson and William Anderson, can doubt that slaves are capable of as high moral excellence as has ever been ascribed to them in any work of fiction? Who that reads Zeke, and the Quick Witted Slave, can pronounce them a stupid race, unfit for freedom? Who that reads the adventures of the Slave Mother, and of poor Manuel, a perpetual mourner for his enslaved children, can say that the bonds of nature are less strong with them than with their more fortunate white brethren? Who can question the horrible tyranny under which they suffer, after reading *The Tender Mercies of a Slaveholder*, and the suicide of Romaine?"

We have rarely read a series of more striking anecdotes than those to some of which reference is made in the foregoing paragraph. They will satisfy any impartial reader that in the incidents of 'Uncle Tom,' Mrs. Stowe, so far from exaggerating the horrors of slavery, has often thrown a veil over scenes of revolting horror, and in the brighter scenes of her romance has depicted nothing of which there are not counterparts often met with in negro life. The facts adduced in the 'Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin,' have already silenced all discussion on this head. The cases narrated in the present memoir strikingly confirm the truth of Mrs. Stowe's representations. We must quote a passage which brings out some additional traits of Isaac Hopper's character. After narrating some events in which he took part, the biographer remarks:—

Many more narratives of similar character might

be added; for I think he estimated at more than one thousand the number of cases in which he had been employed for fugitives, in one way or another, during his forty years' residence in Philadelphia. But enough have been told to illustrate the active benevolence, uncompromising boldness, and ready wit which characterised this friend of humanity. His accurate knowledge of all laws connected with slavery was so proverbial, that magistrates and lawyers were generally averse to any collision with him on such subjects.

"In 1810 Benjamin Donahue, of Delaware, applied to Mr. Barker, mayor of Philadelphia, to assist him in recovering a fugitive, with whose place of residence he was perfectly sure Isaac T. Hopper was acquainted. After a brief correspondence with Friend Hopper, the mayor said to Mr. Donahue, 'We had better drop this business like a hot potato, for Mr. Hopper knows more law in such cases as this than you and I put together.'

"He would often resort to the most unexpected expedients. Upon one occasion, a slave case was brought before Judge Rush, brother of Dr. Benjamin Rush. It seemed likely to terminate in favour of the slaveholder; but Friend Hopper thought he observed that the judge wavered a little. He seized that moment to inquire, 'Hast thou not recently published a legal opinion, in which it is distinctly stated that thou wouldst never seek to sustain a human law, if thou wert convinced that it conflicted with any law in the Bible?'

"I did publish such a statement,' replied Judge Rush; 'and I am ready to abide by it; for in all cases I consider the divine law above the human.'

"Friend Hopper drew from his pocket a small Bible, which he had brought into court for the express purpose, and read in loud distinct tones the following verses: 'Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant which is escaped from his master unto thee: He shall dwell with thee, even among you, in that place which he shall choose, in one of thy gates, where it liketh him best: thou shalt not oppress him.' Deut. xxiii. 15, 16.

"The slaveholder smiled; supposing this appeal to old Hebrew law would be considered as little applicable to modern times, as the command to stone a man to death for picking up sticks on the Sabbath. But when the judge asked for the book, read the sentence for himself, seemed impressed by it, and adjourned the decision of the case, he walked out of the court-house muttering, 'I believe in my soul the old fool will let him off on that ground.' And sure enough, the slave was discharged."

In 1830, Friend Hopper visited Europe, and some characteristic anecdotes are recorded of him, in which, however, his Quakerism and republicanism are chiefly displayed:—

"Upon one occasion Friend Hopper went into the Court of Chancery in Dublin, and kept his hat on, according to Quaker custom. While he was listening to the pleading, he noticed that a person who sat near the Chancellor fixed his eyes upon him with a very stern expression. This attracted the attention of lawyers and spectators, who also began to look at him. Presently an officer tapped him on the shoulder, and said, 'Your hat, sir!'

"What's the matter with my hat?' he inquired. "Take it off!" rejoined the officer. 'You are in his Majesty's Court of Chancery.'

"That is an honour I reserve for his Majesty's Master," he replied. 'Perhaps it is my shoes thou meanest?'

"The officer seemed embarrassed, but said no more; and when the Friend had stayed as long as he felt inclined, he quietly withdrew.

"One day, when he was walking with a lawyer in Dublin, they passed the Lord Lieutenant's castle. He expressed a wish to see the Council Chamber, but was informed that it was not open to strangers. 'I have a mind to go and try,' said he to his companion. 'Wilt thou go with me?'

"No, indeed," he replied; 'and I would advise you not to go.'

"He marched in, however, with his broad beaver on, and found the Lord Lieutenant surrounded by a number of gentlemen. 'I am an American,' said he, 'I have heard a great deal about the Lord Lieutenant's castle, and if it will give no offence, I should like very much to see it.'

"His lordship seemed surprised by this unceremonious introduction, but he smiled, and said to a servant, 'Show this American whatever he wishes to see.'

"He was conducted into various apartments, where he saw pictures, statues, ancient armour, antique coins, and many other curious articles. At parting, the master of the mansion was extremely polite, and gave him much interesting information on a variety of topics. When he rejoined his companion, who had agreed to wait for him at some appointed place, he was met with the inquiry, 'Well, what luck?'

"O, the best luck in the world," he replied, 'I was treated with great politeness.'

"At Westminster Abbey he paid the (then) customary fee of two shillings and sixpence for admission. The doorkeeper followed him, saying, 'You must uncover yourself, sir.'

"Uncover myself!" exclaimed the Friend, with an affectation of ignorant simplicity. 'What dost thou mean? Must I take off my coat?'

"Your coat?" responded the man, smiling. 'No, indeed, I mean, your hat.'

"And what should I take off my hat for?" he inquired.

"Because you are in a church, Sir," answered the door-keeper.

"I see no church here," rejoined the Quaker. 'Perhaps thou meanest the house where the church assemblies. I suppose thou art aware that it is the people, not the building, that constitutes a church?'

"The idea seemed new to the man, but he merely repeated, 'You must take off your hat, sir.'

"But the Friend again inquired, 'What for? On account of these images? Thou knowest Scripture commands us not to worship graven images.'

"The man persisted in saying that no person could be permitted to pass through the church without uncovering his head. 'Well, friend,' rejoined Isaac, 'I have some conscientious scruples on that subject; so give me back my money, and I will go out.'

"The reverential habits of the door-keeper were not quite strong enough to compel him to that sacrifice, and he walked away, without saying anything more on the subject."

We must not omit to mention the remarkable statement as to his personal resemblance to the great Napoleon:—

"Joseph Bonaparte, who then resided at Borden-town, was attracted towards him the first moment he saw him, on account of a strong resemblance to his brother Napoleon. They often met in the steam-boat going down the Delaware, and on such occasions the ex-king frequently pointed him out as the most remarkable likeness of the Emperor that he had ever met in Europe or America. He expressed the opinion that with Napoleon's uniform on, he might be mistaken for him, even by his own household; and if he were to appear thus in Paris, nothing could be easier than for him to excite a revolution."

In confirmation of this, it is elsewhere narrated that when a French company gave a dramatic representation at the Park Theatre at New York, in which Placide personated the Emperor, the manager was so struck with Hopper's resemblance, that he exclaimed, 'Here is Napoleon himself come back again,' and remarked that he would give a hundred dollars a night if he would appear on the stage in the dress of the Emperor. To the same likeness allusion is made in a sonnet by Garrison the abolitionist, in which the character of Hopper is happily delineated:—



"Thou kind and venerable friend of man,  
In heart and spirit young, though old in years!  
The tyrant trembles when thy name he hears,  
And the slave joys thy honest face to scan,  
A friend more true and brave, since time began,  
Humanity has never found; her fears  
By thee have been dispelled, and wiped the tears  
Adown her sorrow-stricken cheeks that ran,  
If like Napoleon's appears thy face,  
Thy soul to his bears no similitude.  
He came to curse, but thou to bless our race,  
Thy hands are pure; in blood were his imbrued.  
His memory shall be covered with disgrace,  
But thine embalmed among the truly great and good."

Friend Hopper lived to be an octogenarian, retaining the vigour and freshness of earlier life, so that he seemed scarcely sixty years of age. The passing of the Fugitive Slave Bill was a heavy blow to the old man, but he was the first to proclaim that resistance to such an enactment was the duty of every good citizen. The first runaway who was endangered by this disgraceful Act happened to be placed under his protection, and he secured his safety. He respected the institutions of his country, but he declared that an enactment was illegal and null which opposed the laws of God and the dictates of humanity. He died May 7, 1852. We have chiefly referred to his exertions in behalf of the slaves and coloured people of the States. But in many other works of philanthropy he took active interest. Of his labours for the reformation of criminals, for the improved management of prisons, hospitals, and lunatic asylums, and for the welfare of the poor, the afflicted, the erring, and the oppressed of every class, the memoir abounds with interesting records.

*Letters of Laura D' Auvergne, and other Poems.*  
By Charles Swain. Longman and Co.

CHARLES SWAIN is one of our few poets of whom posterity will take note. Others may excite a louder fame for a time, but his influence is likely to be permanent, while theirs will die with the fashion or the frenzy of the hour. He is the very antagonism of the spasmodic and flashy school which has sprung out of a misdirected worship of Shelley and Keats. He does not toss about his metaphors with reckless profusion, or bewilder his reader with either mysticism or glare, or assume a semblance of grandeur or profundity without the substance of either. On the contrary, his style, based on our best models of clearness and polish, is the transparent mirror of thoughts, fancies, and feelings, that, without being vulgar, always lie near to the universal heart of man. Only those who have been accustomed to regard such writings critically can estimate how much thought and how large an experience of emotion go to the production of many of this poet's most simple lyrics. The first of the poems in this volume scarcely falls within this description, but it is not our intention to advert to it here, much as we see in it to admire; for while we do not disparage Mr. Swain's efforts in other directions, it seems to us that in lyrical verse lies his greatest strength. It is of the lyrics in the volume before us that we mean to speak, and of these we cannot express our admiration better than by saying, that he often reminds us, without suffering by the comparison, of the best lyrics of Goethe, Heyne, or Uhland. At random we select the following charming bit of verse, embodying a hint, which lovers often grieve their mistresses sorely by neglecting, and which we doubt man's love is too selfish and exacting ever to take:—

"SMILE AND NEVER HEED ME.

"Though, when other maids stand by,  
I may deign thee no reply,  
Turn not then away, and sigh,—  
Smile and never heed me!  
If our love, indeed, be such,  
As must thrill at every touch,  
Why should others learn as much,—  
Smile and never heed me!

"Where's the use that *they* should know  
If one's heart beat fast or slow?—  
Deepest love avoideth show,—  
Smile and never heed me.  
Let our hearts, like stars of night,  
Shunning day's intrusive light,  
Live but for each other's sight,—  
Smile and never heed me!

"Even if, with maiden pride,  
I should bid thee quit my side,  
Take this lesson for thy guide,—  
Smile and never heed me!  
But when stars and twilight meet,  
And the dew is falling sweet,  
And thou hear'st my coming feet,—  
Then—thou then—may'st heed me!"

As a further illustration of Mr. Swain's lyrical faculty take the following, which in its way is as charming as anything in Herrick or Crashaw:—

"THE COQUETTE.

"Whate'er she vowed to-day,—  
Ere a week had fled away  
She'd refuse me!  
And shall I her steps pursue,—  
Follow still,—and fondly woo?—  
No!—excuse me!

"If she loves me,—it were kind  
Just to teach her *her own mind*;  
Let her lose me!  
For no more I'll seek her side,—  
Court her favour,—feed her pride:  
No!—excuse me!

"If in idle, vain display,  
She can cast my love away,  
And thus use me;  
For a fickle heart, at best,  
Shall I grieve, and lose my rest?—  
No!—excuse me!

"Let her frown,—frowns never kill;  
Let her shun me if she will,—  
Hate,—abuse me;  
Shall I bend 'neath her annoy?  
Bend,—and make my heart her toy?  
No!—excuse me!"

Mr. Swain's lyrics all possess the admirable quality of dealing with common loves and common cares, and we cannot doubt that not only among the spindles of Manchester, which glories in him as her poet, but by many a cottage fireside, as well as in many a drawing-room, these little songs will become familiar. They spring heart-warm from the affections, and they help to cherish the best and homeliest feelings. If the following song has not already been set to music, we hope it may soon fall into good hands:—

"THE HUSBAND'S SONG.

"Rainy and rough sets the day,—  
There's a heart beating for somebody;  
I must be up and away,—  
Somebody's anxious for somebody.  
Thrice hath she been to the gate,—  
Thrice hath she listen'd for somebody;  
'Midst the night, stormy and late,  
Somebody's waiting for somebody.

"There'll be a comforting fire,—  
There'll be a welcome for somebody;  
One, in her nearest attire,  
Will look to the table for somebody.  
Though the star's fled from the west,  
There is a star yet for somebody,  
Lighting the home he loves best,—  
Warning the bosom of somebody.

"There'll be a coat o'er the chair,  
There will be slippers for somebody;  
There'll be a wife's tender care,—  
Love's fond embracement for somebody;  
There'll be the little one's charms,—  
Soon 'twill be waken'd for somebody;  
When I have both in my arms,  
Oh! but how blest will be somebody!"

We could wish a word or two altered in the last of these verses. The epithet "tender," being reflective, is out of place, and "fond embracement" is much too fine a phrase, and both might be easily replaced by some more

spontaneous words. But we have no fault to find with the following, which seems to us to answer all the purposes of a good lyric in its simplicity, its suggestiveness, in the pathos of its close, which leaves the mind in a state of gentle meditation:—

"THE OLD COTTAGE CLOCK.

"Oh! the old, old clock, of the household stock  
Was the brightest thing and neatest;  
Its hands, though old, had a touch of gold,  
And its chime rang still the sweetest.  
'Twas a monitor, too, though its words were few,  
Yet they lived, though nations alter'd;  
And its voice, still strong, warn'd old and young,  
When the voice of friendship falter'd!

Tick, tick, it said,—quick, quick, to bed,—  
For ten I've given warning;  
Up, up, and go, or else, you know,  
You'll never rise soon in the morning!

"A friendly voice was that old, old clock,  
As it stood in the corner sunnily,  
And bless'd the time with a merry chime,  
The wintry hours beguiling;  
But a cross old voice was that tiresome clock,  
As it call'd at day-break boldly,  
When the dawn look'd grey o'er the misty way,  
And the early air blew coldly;

Tick, tick, it said,—quick, out of bed,  
For five I've given warning;  
You'll never have health, you'll never get wealth,  
Unless you're up soon in the morning.  
'Still hourly the sound goes round and round,  
With a tone that ceases never;  
While tears are shed for the bright days fled,  
And the old friends lost for ever!  
Its heart beats on,—though hearts are gone  
That warmer beat and younger;  
Its hands still move,—though hands we love  
Are clasped on earth no longer!

Tick,—tick, it said,—to the churchyard bed,  
The Grave hath given warning,—  
Up, up, and rise, and look to the skies,  
And prepare for a heavenly morning!"

Here is another, teaching an important truth, which, embodied in such musical verses, may be learned by many who will thank the poet in after years for its pious and practical wisdom:—

"IMAGINARY EVILS.

"Let to-morrow take care of to-morrow,—  
Leave things of the future to fate;  
What's the use to anticipate sorrow?—  
Life's troubles come never too late!  
If to hope overmuch be an error,  
'Tis one that the wise have prefer'd;  
And how often have hearts been in terror  
Of evils that never occur'd.

"Have faith, and thy faith shall sustain thee,—  
Permit not suspicion and care  
With invisible bonds to enchain thee,  
But hear what God gives thee to bear.  
By his spirit supported and gladden'd,  
Be ne'er by 'forebodings' deter'd;  
But think how oft hearts have been sadden'd  
By fear of what never occur'd.

"Let to-morrow take care of to-morrow:—  
Short and dark as our life may appear,  
We may make it still darker by sorrow,—  
Still shorter by folly and fear!  
Half our troubles are half our invention,  
And often from blessings conferr'd  
Have we shrunk, in the wild apprehension  
Of evils that never occur'd."

It is not the least charm of this delightful little volume, that it may be put with perfect confidence into the hands of the young, with the assurance that nothing will be found in it to corrupt the taste, or which does not indeed tend to inspire the purest feelings, and sentiments of love to man and reverence to God. This can unhappily be said of little of our modern poetry, where recklessness is often mistaken for power, and turbid passion for the fire of genius. When treated by Mr. Swain, love, without losing any of its ardour, never takes a shape with which virtue can quarrel; and the recognition of an over-ruling Providence that guides our ends to good, even when grief is sharpest, pervades all the poems of a more meditative class. Mr. Swain does not quarrel with the want and suffering that beset mortal life, or indulge in those insane protests against the ways of Providence, in which our modern poets so often seem to

fancy they emulate Prometheus, when in fact they merely display the spirit of discontented boys. He takes the world as it is, but finds in its struggles, its affections, and its charities, in those blessed sympathies which are never wanting to those that truly seek them, and in that spiritual comfort in which the pious heart finds strength at its greatest need, those consolations which reconcile us to life, however full of trial, during our brief season of earthly probation. It is because of this quality of Mr. Swain's poetry that we rejoice to see that the "ancient founts of inspiration" still welling freshly within him among the busy crowds of Manchester, where his influence is likely to be most salutary.

One other extract and we have done:—

"THE ORPHAN BOY."

"The room is old,—the night is cold,—  
But night is dearer far than day;  
For then, in dreams, to him it seems,  
That one's returned who's gone away!  
His tears are past,—he clasps her fast,—  
Again she holds him on her knee;  
And,—in his sleep,—he murmurs deep,  
'Oh! Mother, go no more from me!'"

"But morning breaks, the child awakes,—  
The Dreamer's happy dream hath fled;  
The fields look sear, and cold, and drear,—  
Like orphans, mourning Summer dead!—  
The wild birds spring, on shivering wing,  
Or, cheerless, chirp from tree to tree;  
And still he cries, with weeping eyes,  
'Oh! Mother dear, come back to me!'"

"Can no one tell where angels dwell?—  
He's call'd them oft till day grew dim;  
If they were near,—and they could hear,—  
He thinks they'd bring her back to him!—  
'Oh! angels sweet, conduct my feet,'  
He cries, 'where'er her home may be;  
Oh! lead me on to where she's gone,  
Or bring my Mother back to me!'"

With this extract we close this little volume, heartily commending it to our readers, as one which at the coming season of gifts they cannot do better than present to those they love.

*Forest Life in Ceylon.* By W. Knighton, M.A. In 2 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

In these two unpretending volumes we have to welcome a very superior and well-written narrative of travels, from the pen of a man of education and refinement, endowed with a good capacity for observation, and possessed of considerable gentlemanly feeling. The author, it appears, left college for the inheritance of a coffee estate in Ceylon, intending to take up his residence in that island, but his qualifications as a planter were not equal to the successful working of so new and strange an office. Mr. Knighton is evidently a man of accomplished literary taste. He was secretary to the Ceylon branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, and edited a Ceylonese newspaper; and the four years of his brief oriental life "were so filled with incident, with employment, with variety and adventure, that, despite the pecuniary losses sustained in a ruinous speculation, they have ever since afforded him ample and pleasing themes for reflection." His very first impressions on reaching the island strike us as being worthy of quotation:—

"The scene which presented itself on landing had all the interest and freshness of unwonted novelty for us. Accustomed, as I had been, previously to an English life, diversified by two hurried trips to the Continent alone, there was nothing in the reminiscences with which my memory was stored to detract from the novelty of the picture that now spread widely around us on every side. The small huts of mud, with their cocoa-nut leaf thatch; the wicker-work trays exhibiting heaps of chillies or other equally piquant stimulants; the

amazing variety of fruit common to all tropical countries; the strange costume of the women and still stranger of the men; their shrill voices as they called upon the passers-by to purchase, or loudly conversed with each other across the street, all—men, women, and children—squatting on their heels; the fish-women, as in all countries, most voluble of tongue, light-hearted, and merry, exchanging badinage with the male passers by, or making their own remarks on the pale faces—all was new and striking, and told us, with all the eloquence of vision, that we had left the cold north behind, with its frosts and snows, and winter churlishness, and brave battling with a thousand evils that more favoured climes know nothing of, and that we had reached a land of the sun where there was food upon every tree, and clothing was little more than an encumbrance, where the battle of life was not for existence, but for luxury and enjoyment."

His descriptions of Ceylon life, as it impressed him, on landing at Point de Galle, are furnished with a great deal of amusing detail. We must take one leaf out of his journal on starting for Colombo:—

"At length it was ten minutes to five, and, with a coolie or porter carrying my portmanteau, I bid adieu to the 'hotel,' and commenced my journey to Colombo—my heavier luggage having been left in the *Parsee*, which was to proceed to Colombo in a few days.

"The moon had risen an hour before, and its light, with that of the stars, was sufficient to enable us to distinguish objects faintly as we went along. At length we arrived opposite a large door, with two stunted trees on each side. 'Here, Saar,' said the coolie, as he put my portmanteau down against one of the trees, exhausting in those two words nearly his whole available stock of English. I looked around, but saw no signs of coach or horses, of people or bustle. All was still. The coolie has made some mistake, thought I, and can't speak English. Perhaps the coach starts from some other place.

"'Where's the coach that goes to Colombo?' shouted I in his ear, hoping, by the loudness with which I spoke, to make him comprehend me.

"'Here, Saar,' said he again, as he coolly proceeded, having found a large stone, to hammer it on the iron hinges of the door, shouting out some words all the time, that seemed invariably to end with 'man gee,' in a singing tone. At length the violent knocking, and no less violent shouting, elicited a reply from within. The coolie turned to me with a grin, as if he would have said, 'You see.' I so understood his look at all events, and replied, 'I see nothing extraordinary in your waking somebody with all that. But where's the mail-coach?'"

"'Here, Saar,' shouted he again, grinning; and again commencing the vociferation of the Singhalese sentence invariably ending in 'man gee.' At length the door opened, and a huge, half-dressed, negro-like Portuguese stood before us. His black hair stood up straight from his head like the bristles of a hedgehog, and added some inches to his height, which was in itself great.

"'Does the coach start from here?' I asked, delighted to see a pair of pantaloons under such circumstances.

"'Yes, Sir,' he replied, squeakingly; 'in five minutes it will be off.'

"'O, then it only calls here,' I observed.

"'No, Sir,' said he, in a half-feminine, half-boyish voice, that contrasted strangely with his uncouth figure—'No, Sir, it starts from here; and, as he said so, I saw a strange waggon-like vehicle lumbering up to us, drawn by four coolies. This was the mail-coach—a miserable cart, with canvas curtains hanging down on either side, and room inside for six at the utmost, whilst the driver might possibly accommodate one or two on his box! A flat roof covered it, whence depended the aforesaid canvas curtains, and on which I suppose luggage is sometimes packed. Two horses, that did not look as if they were particularly disposed to go on, were speedily harnessed, and after another

delay of five minutes for the coachman, also a Portuguese, preparations were made for starting. It took the united force of the establishment—coachman, grooms, coolies, and all—to set the machine in motion. Some turned round the wheels, others belaboured the horses, others pushed from behind, whilst two pulled vigorously at the horses' heads and ears. At length we were fairly off—I the only passenger, my leathern portmanteau constituting all the luggage! It was then a quarter past five; when they would have started, had I not been going, I cannot conjecture. We rattled through the streets at a capital pace; but to my surprise, as I looked round I found our vehicle literally covered with natives holding on, on all sides, like shell-fish stuck to a ship's bottom. Even my friend the negro-like Portuguese, in the same elegant *deshabille*, was sitting composedly on the step by which I had mounted. I thought it very odd, but for a time said nothing. At length I asked my mop-headed companion whether they were all coming to Colombo. 'No, Sir,' he squeaked out; 'but there's another start at the post-office.' That explained it, and I was satisfied.

"Arrived at the post-office, we stopped. There was a man in the verandah to be woke first, which took some time. He then proceeded to wake those within, by a repetition of the same process my coolie had employed to wake the 'mail-coach office.' There was the same hammering of a stone on the iron-work of the door—the same vociferation of sentences ending in 'man gee'—the same intervals of repose and renewals of the assault, and with the same result. A voice answered from within; the door was slowly opened; and at length the mail-bags were deposited in Her Majesty's mail-coach. I have heard that there are many strange vehicles employed by the post-office in England to convey letters about, including hand and wheel-barrows, with the royal arms on them; but I do not think that in all Her Majesty's dominions there was a conveyance in 1843 that would have more surprised the royal lady herself, had she seen it starting, than the Galle and Colombo mail-coach."

A visit to the Cinnamon Gardens will be read with interest, but we pass on to the following pleasing episode in Mr. Knighton's narrative, which speaks for itself:—

"We stopped for the night at a bungalow, halfway between Colombo and Kandy, beautifully situated in a valley, formed by a semicircular group of hills, amongst which the road wound on to the east in its uninterrupted course. As the sun sank, large, clear and unclouded in the west, the full moon rose with a splendour peculiarly her own in the clear air of the tropics, upon the east. I know not how to give an idea of the loveliness of that night, as we enjoyed it, walking in the verandah of the bungalow, and bathing as it were in the flood of silver glory poured down so profusely by the pale queen of night upon the earth! Not even upon the ocean have I witnessed a splendour equal to that! The stars twinkled dimly here and there, obscured by the more powerful beams of the moon, whilst the whole earth seemed lit up with intensely burnished silver mirrors, reflecting floods of light in every direction. The dark shadows on the hill sides were rendered still darker by the soft glow which diffused itself equally upon all the salient points of the landscape. If one could choose, where all was loveliness, perhaps the palm trees presented the most strikingly new and bewitching aspect. Their long graceful leaves, wet with dew, shone with a mild radiance as the flood of light was poured down upon them, whilst, between their ever moving branches, the rays of the moon made their way timidly as it were to the earth, where an exact impression of the graceful tracery above was pictured out upon the grass in black and silver, never at rest, but always lovely. All nature seemed to enjoy the glorious spectacle.—'Most glorious night,' I involuntarily exclaimed with the poet, 'thou wert not sent for slumber.' From the minutest insects in the air to the hugest denizens of the forest, all seemed equally impressed with the same idea, that it were treason to the majesty of nature not to

enjoy such a scene. The air was filled at intervals with the various noises that a luxuriant tropical fauna alone can produce; below from the woods, the wild shriek or shrill cry of the monkeys mingling there with the trumpeting of the elephant; croakings from the river and marshes; loud buzzings from the trees and air; whilst birds called to and answered each other with incessant rapidity: all intermingled and alternated with each other at intervals, between which a silence as of universal awe or death, crept over the landscape—the nearer and sharper sounds ceased, the silent circle widened, and gradually the more distant reverberations ended, and then there was a perfect calm for a time, holy, pure, and exciting in its peacefulness, so different from the tumult which preceded and succeeded it. The scene is stamped upon my mind still, and will probably never be effaced. And yet I have not mentioned the most exquisite of all the scenes of that bright evening! It was love that lent its charm to the whole. I was the witness of the happiness of two noble specimens of our race, as they reflected love from each other's eyes, drinking in deep draughts of the intoxicating sentiment with every glance. It would have been a sin on such an evening not to be grateful and happy, and no shade of jealousy darkened my heart as I rejoiced with them in that glorious prospect. I had never seen the lady otherwise than as the companion of her husband, and therefore I looked upon their love and relationship as a natural thing, which did not interfere with me, and which, if wise, I too could afar off, participate in, or, at all events, sympathize with. When I saw her face shining in the pale moonbeams, her sparkling eyes and black hair, contrasting vividly with the pure whiteness of her brow, and of her neck, and whilst I felt her warm hand resting on my thinly covered arm, I looked upon her as I looked upon the landscape, as an object of loveliness, on which my eyes might feast, and which memory might treasure in my heart, but which nearer approach would probably but sully or disturb. As I saw her gaze directed towards the stars, and heard her sigh, saying, that she was sorry she had not studied astrology, yes, sigh in the very wantonness of happiness, and as I saw the clear intelligent eye and brow of her husband turned towards her, whilst a good-humoured smile played around his lips, I felt that we require but a sensitive heart to enjoy the happiness of others, and that he must have a bad one who cannot see that happiness without envy.

"My husband smiles at the idea of astrology, do you not think there is more in that 'poetry of heaven,' said she, turning to me, 'than he is willing to admit!'"

"You are too polite, I am sure, to say there is nothing in it, after such an appeal," said he, quickly; "but, Emma, I am equally sure your own reason declares to you the folly and absurdity of the pretended science."

"My reason, as it has been cultivated, may," was her reply, "but my heart, my dear Ernest, wishes it were otherwise, and often tells me that it is so."

"The heart is an erring guide in matters of science," said he.

"Why should it be so?" she asked. "Is there, then, an opposition between the two? If so, God grant I may ever follow the dictates of the heart, and leave the reason, with its cold, selfish, calculating wisdom, behind me. The heart is everywhere the same, whilst reason differs everywhere. The heart prompted a thousand years ago as it prompts now; reason, a thousand years ago, taught a hundred things which it laughs at now. I, at all events, will cherish the unchangeable."

"Your German philosophy, my dear Emma," he urged, "has misled you. There is no opposition between the two—the cultivated heart and cultivated reason, say one and the same thing—at least, the more they are cultivated the more nearly they assimilate."

"What do you think on the subject?" he added, turning to me.

"Thus directly appealed to, I could not avoid

the discussion further, although I feared it might lead to dangerous ground.

"I am inclined to agree with Mrs. Hofer's German philosophy, as you call it," said I, "that where the heart and the head differ, the former is to be preferred. The impulses of the heart, eminently subjective as they are, are more likely to be true than the reasonings, purely objective, for the most part, of the head. But both certainly require cultivation, and the due cultivation of the heart appears to me to be a far more difficult thing than that of the head. As to astrology, there is something fascinating and poetical in the supposition that our destinies are written in the everlasting firmament; but is it not making ourselves of too much, and the stars of too little importance, to conceive such a thing possible?"

"Like my husband," Mrs. Hofer replied, "you are a sceptic, with reference to man's higher and nobler nature; you have no belief in that inner world which shadows forth so truly the outer. Did I assert that the stars were there—there, in that glorious canopy," said she, disengaging her hand from my arm, and stopping to point to them, "merely that man might read his destiny in them, there would be truth in your objection—but no, I believe they are there for other and infinitely holier and higher purposes. Is it not, however, consistent with the divine economy of nature, that one thing should serve many ends, and do we not see a thousand examples of such on earth?"

"There is much ingenuity, but little logic in your observation," replied Hofer. "Astronomy reveals too much of the stars to permit astrology to be true, and if astrology be true, all our modern science is false."

"And that same modern science," I observed, "I fear Mrs. Hofer will regard as destroying all the poetry of life."

"Yes," she replied, "material science goes far to do so, but not mental. I fear it is too often forgotten, however, that astrology was once the universal belief of mankind, and is still believed in by a majority of the human race."

"That," said her husband, "cannot be allowed to be an argument in favour of its truth. A thousand bubbles float over the heads of mankind for centuries, are admired, examined, believed in, sung, and praised enthusiastically, and at last, burst to be seen no more;—nay, men have fought, strangling each other with death-grips, to seize such bubbles, and lo! when they touch them, they dissolve into thin air, and leave not a wrack behind."

"Well," said his fair partner, gaily, "the Buddhists are astrologers; I will learn the science of them, at all events, during my residence in the jungle, and then I shall be better able to contest the point. In the meantime, although our hearts would prompt us to remain here all night, basking in this lovely moonlight, yet our heads tell us, if we are to journey early to-morrow, we had better retire. There is no opposition, you see, between them; shall we obey both?"

"A truly feminine method of concluding the argument," said her husband, as they bid me adieu, leaving me to meditate a little longer in the moonlight."

We have not space to refer to the account which Mr. Knighton gives us of his coffee estate, but it is well worth reading. We pass on to an extremely interesting chapter descriptive of an excursion to Adams' Peak, but too long for extract. For variety's sake we give his stirring encounter with a wild elephant:—

"A more formidable thing than a charge from an enraged elephant can scarcely be imagined. His trunk elevated in the air, whilst he trumpets forth loudly his rage or hatred, he shuffles his huge carcass along at a pace more rapid than any one would conceive possible when regarding the unwieldy bulk of the animal alone. The bushes bend before him as he advances—the branches of the trees snap off with sharp, rapid reports—the animals in the neighbouring jungle, alarmed at the danger, hoot, whoop, scream, cry, bellow, and roar

to the utmost, in alarm or in anger, and the whole welkin rings with the commotion.

"Our baggage was of course flung down in all directions by the coolies as they made for the nearest trees. The elephant paused for a moment over the articles strewn in his way, but only for a moment, and hurling a portmanteau high into the air, advanced as before, bellowing madly. The natives are, of course, expert climbers, so that, ere he approached, all the coolies had made their way into the trees, and appeared to be perfectly safe—all but one, who had still a leg within reach of the monster's trunk when he approached the tree in which the unfortunate man, paralyzed by fear, no doubt, was climbing. To the others who surrounded him, and to us from the brow of the neighbouring hill, it appeared that the man was sufficiently high in the tree to prevent his being caught and dragged down by the infuriated animal. Whether he was so caught, however, or was only struck and fell through excessive fear, certain it is we saw him fall backwards on the uplifted head of the elephant! In a moment the body of the unfortunate man was whirling high in the air, and at length descended with a frightful thump upon the ground, only to be trampled immediately afterwards into a shapeless mass!"

"His success in this instance, which was all the work of a moment or two, appeared but to increase the savage fury of the monster. He rushed at the tree nearest to him, into which two of the little band had climbed, his broad forehead coming with thundering force upon the trunk, and shaking it in every twig—he struck and dug at it with his tusks—he grasped it with his trunk—retreated to a little distance and made another assault with his broad, heavy forehead, butting, as a ram would do against an antagonist—again was the tree shaken, every leaf quivering violently, but no sign of tumbling about it, a slight list to one side was the only perceptible result—its occupants holding on for life all the time, and shouting violently in the extremity of their fear, or in the vain hope of frightening the animal away."

"Whilst all this was proceeding we were reloading the discharged barrels of our rifles, and, having mounted, drew off the attention of the elephant from the coolies, by shouting, as we awaited him on our vantage ground, on the brow of the hill. No sooner did the enemy perceive us than he turned away from the tree, which he seemed intent on bringing down, and made directly for the spot on which we were drawn up ready to receive him—our grooms having climbed high into the largest tree in its vicinity. We were aware that firing at random, or at any great distance, was useless, and that our only chance of bringing him down lay in the accuracy of our aim and his proximity when we fired. We therefore awaited his approach with what calmness we could. Before the elephant had come within range, however, 'Uncle Toby,' my excellent steed, took fright at the dreadful picture before him, and, starting off, bore me, with frightful rapidity, down the steepest part of the hill's side. What became of Hofer I did not then know, although I heard the clear ring of his rifle behind me as I was borne triumphantly down the bank. His horse, as I subsequently learned, had behaved admirably well, never swerving in the least until he had fired. His ball, we afterwards discovered, had entered the left eye, and must have given excruciating pain, but was not fatal. Hofer then wheeled round his horse, and followed me down the declivity, aware that the elephant, from the great weight of its head, is unable to go down a steep hill with any rapidity. There was this difference, however, between us, that whilst Uncle Toby had the bit clenched in his teeth and was perfectly unmanageable from excessive fear, Hofer's horse was completely in hand, and he could do with him what he pleased. The elephant laboured after us, blood streaming from his eye, and his whole appearance indicating excessive fury and intense pain. When I had now nearly reached the base of the hill—our enemy having been left far behind—my horse, in his wild gallop, threw his fore-legs into a little swamp, where they



"rank deeply. I was thrown far away over his head, whilst he rolled helplessly on his side. I was not hurt, but the loss of a moment might have been the loss of my life, so, jumping up, I grasped my rifle more firmly than ever, and stood upon the defensive. A moment of intense interest to both of us succeeded—life or death hung upon the issue, for the elephant, having witnessed the accident, left the pursuit of Hofer, and directed his steps towards me. There might have been time to climb into a tree, but I did not make the attempt—my whole mind being on fire with the earnest desire to bring down the monster. Hofer, seeing what had happened, drew up his horse on the hill's side—the elephant, still advancing, soon came in a line with him, his left, and now blind side, being turned towards him. Seeing that he was not observed, Hofer dismounted, and proceeded to take aim immediately behind the shoulder-blade, as the animal laboured heavily along. Precisely at the moment when I discharged both barrels full into the broad forehead, Hofer's ball penetrated his side. A momentary check to the animal's progress seemed the only result of this double fire at the instant—he advanced twenty paces or so further, and then fell headlong to the earth, turning over gradually on his right side, and beating the ground ineffectually with his trunk. Uncle Toby had only just left the spot a few minutes before to scamper wildly away on the road that we had come, where the elephant now lay extended before us, an occasional convulsive twitch of one of his legs or of his trunk the only failing symptoms of life. The huge mass of his body stood higher than my chest as he lay thus helplessly where he had fallen, making an occasional but ineffectual effort to lift his head off the marsh in which it was half imbedded.

"Most people, I believe, feel danger affect the nerves to the greatest degree after it has passed. I am sure it was so with me. When the enormous brute was charging rapidly down the hill, when there seemed no chance of escape by flight, and the slightest accident might have been death—under these circumstances my nerves were so strung to their greatest tension that there was no agitation. I was as able then to take advantage of the slightest turn in my favour, as if our sport had been most harmless, and we had been hunting a hare instead of an elephant. But now that the peril was past, now that the body of the huge animal lay extended before me in all the impotence of death, a sense of the danger I had been in rushed upon me with redoubled force, and I was amazingly agitated.

We close our notice with a summary of the author's reflections on gaining the summit of the Peak:—

"The ascent of this cone is by no means easy. The steepness of the sides and the force with which the wind whistles round it, at a height approaching to eight thousand feet, are sufficient in themselves to render it anything but an easy matter to make one's way to the top, and were it not for the chains which are hung in some places to facilitate the ascent of the pilgrims, it would be both difficult and dangerous. The road winds up the western side in a zig-zag direction, like a strung series of Z's, consisting of a narrow pathway, formed partly by jutting rocks, and partly by incisions in the mountain's sides. The scrubby European-looking vegetation affords the adventurous traveller a hold occasionally as he passes some parts of unusual difficulty, whilst in others, the vegetation shuts him in completely, and he clammers along up a kind of ravine. In three or four places a smooth rock is to be ascended, which would be a matter of no little difficulty, if not altogether impossible, were it not for the chains I have mentioned, which are firmly rivetted into the rocks above, and let down over the ascent; even with these, however, strength and agility are both required to get up securely and unassisted. The loss of his hold, or an awkward slip, would precipitate the traveller or pilgrim into eternity. Even women, it is said, annually ascend the Peak, in compliance with the dictates of religious enthusiasm, and there is scarcely a dangerous spot in the ascent, of which

the guide will not be able to tell you some story connected with the loss of human life, usually females. The year in which our guide had previously ascended, the second before our expedition, two unfortunate female pilgrims had been blown over the side of the hill at one of those frightful corners on the road, where a square foot of rock alone preserves the traveller from destruction. On looking into the abyss below, I could discern a fragment of cloth waving on the gnarled stem of an oak-like bush, far, far, beneath us.

"At length I stepped forth from a little entrance in the small wall, built round the hallowed precincts of the foot-impression. I was on the very summit of Adam's Peak, and, in my joy and triumph, I saluted the holy locality with a hearty 'hurrah!'

"The wall which had been built round the summit is about three feet high, and confines a quantity of earth, forming a pathway round the huge rock in the centre, over which the little temple is built. The temple itself consists merely of a picturesque roof, Chinese looking, supported on strong wooden pillars, and preserved from being blown down by massive iron chains inserted into the rocks around, reminding one of the cords from the top of a tent pole. On the eastern side the pathway is extensive enough to admit of a small bungalow having been erected, in which the priests reside during the period of pilgrimage. Here of course we took up our quarters, and I then proceeded to examine the great object of reverence, to adore which the enthusiastic natives encounter so many dangers. The sacred footstep is emphatically a humbug—a humbug of humbugs in fact. I had expected to find it something approaching a humbug, but not so egregious a one as it proved to be. All that exists naturally in the rock, is two oval cavities, about two feet from each other, one of which some vivid Eastern imagination conjured into a heel, the other into the impression of the ball of the foot—all the rest is evidently artificial—too evidently to leave the shadow of a doubt on the subject in the beholder's mind—the toes indeed are made with coarse lime or clunam, and, were it not for a border of the same, the outline of a foot would never be recognised. The extreme length of this 'faint exaggeration of a footstep,' as it has been happily called, is five feet three inches, its breadth varying from two feet five to two feet nine inches.

"Nothing could be more bracing and delightful than the temperature at this great altitude. I felt it cold of course, but the thermometer, which I carried with me, did not descend lower than 47° during the day and night I was on the summit—a sufficient contrast from the 80° and 90° I had been lately experiencing in Colombo. The coolies, having first devoutly worshipped towards the 'sri-pada,' or holy footstep, but without venturing to examine it too closely, next proceeded to kindle a fire, and in a few minutes a cheerful blaze shone through the thatched walls of the little priest's bungalow. The natives were not accustomed to use a fire for warmth, and, as they crouched before it, they found doubtless to their annoyance that it did not warm their backs equally with the fronts of their bodies, and in order to secure a little of the genial heat for all, to my surprise, on entering, when I had finished my examination of the summit, I found them gyrating on their heels, like so many monkeys being roasted.

"The night passed away without any incident of importance, and next morning I witnessed a scene which fully repaid me for all my previous toils—the rising of the sun. It was certainly the most magnificent sight I have ever witnessed. When I rose in the morning all was black below, nothing whatever could be distinguished, except a few streaks of light in the East. Gradually the rays shot further and further over the sky, and at length, standing in the foot-impression, on the highest pinnacle of the summit, I could discern a small portion of the sun himself. Still everything around and beneath was dark—the sky alone glowing with light, but all below like a vast black ocean of the most forbidding character. At length a hill in our vicinity was touched by the rays,

and there, in the gloom, it shone and glistened like a piece of burnished gold in a sea of pitch. Another and another mountain top caught the glow and stood prominently forth, shining gorgeously in the surrounding darkness. And so it went on—the shining islands ever increasing in size and becoming more numerous, until nothing remained dark but the valleys between the highest hills, whilst the various tints of the clouds that hung on the mountain sides added a peculiar charm to the landscape. I could at length discover the Indian ocean to the west and south, and more than half the island was laid open, as in a vast panorama, to my inspection. To witness the rising of the sun from the summit of Adam's Peak, is a sight worth living and toiling for, and once witnessed, can never be forgotten—the impression, vivid almost as the reality, will live in the memory, however far we may be removed from the mountain in distance, or from the scene itself by time."

Mr. Knighton writes copiously and with much intelligence on the subject of Buddhism in Ceylon, on the cave-temples of Dambod, and on the buried city of Anuradhapura. We have not met with a more delightful book of travels for a very long time past.

*The Twin Sisters. A Novel.* By Lucy Field, Author of 'The Two Friends.' 3 vols. John Chapman.

THE plan and materials of this tale are of a kind not unusual in the world of fiction. Two beautiful and accomplished girls are, by the sudden death and embarrassed circumstances of their father, left without fortune, and almost without friends. The trials and struggles incident to such a position, the characters of the twin sisters, and the different effects of their career, are well described. Amy, bright and buoyant, cheerfully faces and overcomes the obstacles in her path; while Inez, proud and reserved, is galled by the mortifications to which she is subjected. Many characters are introduced in the story, and they are generally well conceived and well delineated. Among these the best are the proud but kind-hearted Mrs. Ferrers, whose daughters Amy teaches, young Ferrers the son, the pious and sensible Mrs. Greville, her friend and counsellor, and little Dora, Inez's charming pupil and good angel. We must give only one extract, to show the author's style, and select the account of a good specimen of 'an old maid,' in the description of whom the genial English spirit of the author appears:—

"No spacious and splendidly-furnished apartment could easily have vied that night, in its air of comfort, with this room of narrow dimensions and homely adornments. It had cost Miss Parker the serious consideration of many days, and the active employment of many hours, preceding the expected arrival, to satisfy herself that everything was as it should be, above stairs and below. The blazing hearth, the resplendent glories of holly, and other such winter treasures,—the tempting abundance of a substantial meal, spread out on the snowy cloth,—would be difficult worthily to describe. Neither can an unskilful pen hope to succeed in attempting the portrait of the kind old lady who presided, as, dressed in her best, in honour of the occasion, she anxiously fitted hither and thither, on some little errand of thoughtful kindness, with all the while such a pleased and happy smile, that an ignorant spectator would have imagined she was welcoming her nearest and dearest relatives, instead of this pair, one of whom was the chance acquaintance of a few months' date, and the other an entire stranger to her, recommended only by the claims of sickness and trial. These were claims, indeed, which this worthy woman never neglected; and it is pleasant to see how she, and those who, like her,

have hearts and sympathies wide enough to embrace all the world in their loving kindness, reap the great reward of finding always, that, even though in poverty, yet they are rich,—though solitary, yet they are surrounded by friends,—and though forgotten and passed by, in 'the great world,' as it is called, they everywhere meet their own among the suffering, who bless them, and the helpless whom they befriend.

"Good Miss Parker!—unlovely in person, ungifted in mind, plain, homely, mean, as a casual observer would certainly pronounce you to be; an old maid, even before the ordinary term which condemns your sex to that opprobrious epithet, because Nature so sparingly bestowed those outside charms which are, unhappily, all that our matrimonial speculators generally discover,—poor in worldly goods, even to the verge of poverty,—there is yet, surely, something sublime in a life like yours!—something which, if we could properly penetrate to the core of that noble, self-sacrificing heart, would raise the obscure daily governess to a quite other post in the esteem of all good men. Yet she needs not such a recompense, for she finds one far worthier in the calm atmosphere of peaceful, holy living, which surrounds her everywhere. Though she has had disappointments, she has never repined; and though deceived and injured, she still loves and honours mankind; though her own choice would have placed her lot, not as one solitary, but 'in the midst of a family,' yet she never murmurs that things were not otherwise ordained for her. Unweariedly she labours, cheerfully she endures, bountifully she gives,—yes, bountifully, for hers is of that order of spirits who have always enough wherewith to furnish the liberal hand. Thus she lives, and thus, in her appointed time, she will calmly die; and if the world has not known her, there is One whose eye sees not through a veil darkly, who judges and knows her truly as she is.

"Amy had, indeed, long since learnt to appreciate the worth of her friend and 'comrade,' as Miss Parker usually styled herself, and she met her now with a glow of affection which brought tears into the old lady's kind and beaming eyes. They both, however, speedily turned their attention from each other, to bestow it on the pale invalid, who, exhausted by her journey, willingly followed their advice, by retiring, as soon as she had done what justice she could to the 'meat tea,' as Miss Parker technically entitled their repast."

We must just tell the end of the story of the twin sisters. Inez marries an old dissipated baronet, who soon dies by an accident, and she goes abroad, where she dies not long after. Amy, who had gone to meet her, travels with Mrs. Ferrers, who, although formerly prejudiced against her by her son's attachment to 'the governess,' is at last overcome by her goodness and worth, and receives her as a daughter. All this is commonplace enough, so far as invention and construction are concerned, but the tale is well told, and a fine generous spirit pervades the book, rendering it worthy of being commended to the perusal of the young.

*The Ottoman Empire and its Resources; with Statistical Tables.* By Edward Michelsen, Ph.D. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

ON Turkey and Turkish affairs there have been many books lately published, but the present is distinguished from all its predecessors by the amount and variety of statistical details which it contains. From various official sources tabular statements are compiled, and systematic statements prepared, of many matters relating to the finances, trade, navigation, commerce, army, navy, and institutions of the Ottoman Empire. More than half the volume is occupied with these details, the value of which for reference at the present time will be recognised by all who are inter-

ested in Turkish affairs. To the general reader the early part of the work will be more attractive, in which Dr. Michelsen gives a historical sketch of the events in connexion with the foreign and domestic relations of the country during the last twenty years. The narrative commences with the accession of the Sultan Mahmoud, his attempts at reform, and the revolt of Mehemet Ali in Egypt. Of the events of the war, the interference of the European powers, the reforms carried out by the new Sultan Abdul Medjid, and subsequent movements, domestic and foreign, affecting the Ottoman power, a concise and plain narrative is given, in a style which shows that the author is well versed in his subject, and that he possesses the knowledge entitling his opinions to consideration. The troubles arising out of the mutual hostilities of the tribes of Syria, and the political relations of the Danubian Principalities, two of the most difficult subjects connected with recent Turkish history, are described in an intelligible style and at reasonable length. The origin of the present war with Russia is thus briefly explained:—

"Hardly have two years now elapsed in comparative peace and quiet, when the relations of the Porte with Russia have become embroiled in the beginning of the present year (1853) with regard to the guardianship of the holy places, their churches and votaries. The dispute has assumed a most critical aspect, threatening to involve the whole of Europe in a general war, according to the bias or interest evinced by the various powers to support and side with one or the other party, since it would be absurd to suppose that Turkey could, single-handed, dislodge the northern power from the Danubian principalities it has so forcibly taken possession of: 'Mira prorsus audacia, ut quibus in solo urbis sue par non erat, eorum urbi bellum inferret.'"

"The dispute first originated in regard to what are called the 'holy places,' being certain chapels and sanctuaries in Jerusalem, to which, by the consent of the Porte, Christian pilgrims, both of the Romish and the Greek Church, have for ages been accustomed to resort. The safe keeping of these holy places, and the safe conduct of the pilgrims resorting to them, have always been a matter of solicitude on the part of the French and Russian governments: the King of the French claiming a right to protect pilgrims of the Romish faith, by virtue of the rank and title long ago accorded to him by the Pontiff of Rome, of 'most Christian king;' the Emperor of Russia claiming to protect the pilgrims of the Greek faith, by virtue of the rank and title arbitrarily assumed to himself by his ancestor, Peter the Great, of Patriarch of the Greek Church. The adjustment of the respective claims of these two protectorates, in all that relates to the management of the holy places, has, from time to time, led to no little jealousy and squabbling between the partisans of the two Churches; but if there had been nothing else to deal with as between these parties and the Porte, the latter probably would have succeeded in satisfying them both, by the equity with which he has divided his concessions between them. The question between Russia and the Porte, however, does not end with the holy places, nor with the safe conduct of the pilgrims resorting thereto; it involves, on the part of Russia, the demand of a right of protection over the whole of the members of the Greek Church, being subjects of the Porte, and residing within her dominions.

"This is the position which the Emperor of Russia demands to occupy in the Ottoman dominions, and demands it as a right. He claims from the Porte a new document acknowledging that right. The Emperor Nicholas cites 'the glorious treaty of Kainardje' as the basis of his claim against the Porte. In that treaty, Article VII. runs thus:—

"The Sublime Porte promises constantly to protect the Christian religion, and the churches belonging to it; and also it permits the ministers of the imperial court of Russia to make, on all occasions, representations as well in respect of the new church at Constantinople (of which mention will be made in Article XIV.), as of those who belong to it,—promising to take them into consideration as coming from a person in the confidence of a neighbouring and sincerely friendly power."

"Article XIV. states that,—'After the example of the other powers, it is permitted to the high court of Russia, besides the chapel erected in its house of embassy, to construct, in the quarter of Galata, in the street named Bey-Oglu, a public church of the Greek religion, which shall be always under the protection of the ministers of that empire, and held free from all interruption or annoyance.'"

"These two articles together 'permit' Russia to build a certain church at Galata, a suburb of Constantinople, and place that church under its protection. It also 'permits' Russia, on all occasions, 'to make representations' on behalf of the said church at Galata; and those who have to do with it, 'promising to take them into consideration as coming,' &c. The Conference of the four powers at Vienna had framed a note of reconciliation, to which Russia had given her assent, but as it has been rejected by the Porte, the dispute has receded to its original position, and the solution is as far off as ever."

The statistical tables of the military force and revenues of the Empire, and of the relative members of the population according to races and to creeds, will in the present state of affairs be perused with interest.

#### NOTICES.

*The Positive Philosophy of Auguste Comte.* Freely translated and condensed by Harriet Martineau. John Chapman.

WE have so recently expressed our opinion as to Comte and his philosophy, in reviewing the expository treatise of Mr. Lewes (*ante*, p. 1089), that it is only necessary for us to mention the present work. The fact of Comte's system being taken up by Miss Martineau is enough to show the class of minds to whom it commends itself. Her admiration of the French philosopher is even more enthusiastic and less discriminating than that of Mr. Lewes. A similar impression is likely to be made on all clever and speculative minds, not well-instructed in the facts of science, nor imbued with the spirit of sound philosophy. Miss Martineau professes to give a free translation of Comte's lectures, but in many parts she merely presents an analysis, and there are large omissions. The original works suffer little from condensation, and the editor states truly that though "six volumes averaging nearly eight hundred pages, are here given in two volumes, it will be found that nothing essential to either statement or illustration is omitted." The condensation might have been carried still further without much loss. But apart from the speculative notions of Comte, his narrative of the history and statement of the facts of some branches of science are lucid and instructive. Whatever is valuable in the positive system is already comprehended in the processes of inductive science, concerning the principles of which there is more solid wisdom and sound philosophy in a few pages of the 'Novum Organum' of Bacon than in all the speculations and theories of Comte.

*Handbook of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy.* By Dionysius Lardner, D.C.L. Third Course: *Meteorology—Astronomy.* Walton and Maberly.

THIS volume completes the valuable 'Handbook' of physics, the first course comprising mechanics, hydrostatics, hydraulics, pneumatics, acoustics, and optics; the second, heat, electricity, galvanism, and magnetism; and the third, meteorology and astronomy. Taken together, the courses form a comprehensive and complete manual of natural philosophy and astronomy. The author's design

has been to adapt his statements of facts to those who do not possess unusual mathematical knowledge, and the work is therefore somewhat popular in its style, without any loss of scientific accuracy and fulness. The work is justly described by its author as calculated to "afford that amount of information on the several subjects comprised in it, which is demanded by the student in law and in medicine, by the engineer and artisan, by the superior classes in schools, and by those who, having already entered on the active business of life, are still desirous to sustain and extend their knowledge of the general truths of physics, and of those laws by which the order and stability of the material world are maintained." A greater amount and variety of scientific information has rarely been condensed into so small a compass as in this 'Hand-book.' The present volume is that which will be most generally attractive, the study of meteorology and of astronomy being increasingly popular. Great pains seem to have been taken to render the record of astronomical facts as complete as possible, and to present the results of the most recent researches and discoveries. The volume is illustrated with thirty-seven lithographic plates, and above two hundred woodcuts, many of them taken from sources not easily accessible to the general student. A copious index and well arranged tables of contents facilitate references to the contents of the work.

*The Works of William Cowper. With Southey's Life.* Illustrated with fifty engravings. 8 vols. Bohn.

THE first volume of a new edition of Cowper's Life and Works has appeared in Bohn's Standard Library. The whole of the fifteen volumes of Southey's edition will be republished in eight volumes of the convenient form, and at the cheap price, of this valuable series. Although Southey could not appreciate some points in Cowper's character, his biography is far the best that we possess, and he spared no pains in editing the works. This edition of Southey's Cowper will contain the completest collection of the poet's works, comprising many of his letters and some poems, the copyright of which is unexpired, and cannot be elsewhere at present reproduced. The life and letters will occupy four volumes, and the poems four, the last two containing the translations of Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*. The engravings and illustrations are very superior both in design and engraving, and add to the interest and value of the work. Among the plates in the first volume are the portrait of Cowper, drawn by Harvey, from the original by Romney, Cowper's mother, Mrs. Unwin, the poet's birthplace at Berkhamstead, the residence at Olney, and the Wilderness at Weston. The ever increasing popularity of Cowper is a healthy sign of the moral tone as well as the literary taste of the reading public of our day, which this admirable edition of his Life and Works will help to extend and perpetuate.

*Saunterings in and about London.* By Max Schlesinger. The English edition by Otto Wenckstern. N. Cooke.

WHEN Max Schlesinger's book appeared at Berlin about two years ago (*Wanderungen durch London. L. G.*, 1852, p. 84), we spoke of it as a lively record of a clever and intelligent foreigner's observation of London and its people. The sketches were written for the information and amusement of the author's fellow countrymen, but they enter so well into the spirit, and often so correctly into the details of English life, that few native writers could have written more faithful and animated descriptions. We concluded our former review of the German original by expressing our opinion that the work seemed very well deserving of translation, which is now done in a light and free style suitable to the subject, and the book in its English dress will not fail to be widely read. The letters in the appendix cleverly explain and apologise for omissions in the text. It was impossible in a book of small size to embrace all topics, and Dr. Keif explains that "if there is no account of the British Museum, nor St. Paul's, nor the galleries of art, there is also nothing about the abuses of English

law, the dissoluteness of the lowest orders, the snobism of the middle classes," and other subjects that appear to foreigners so discreditible.

*Discovery. A Poem.* By Edward Aldam Leatham, M.A. Walton and Maberly.

THE title of this poem is not directly suggestive of its subject, and it is only gradually that we discover the wide range of topics taken up. It would have been better had the author confined his attention to a more limited field. When we find the discovery of America by Columbus followed by accounts of the invention of the alphabet, the establishment of government, the progress of philosophy, the growing delights of childhood, the improvements in the steam-engine, the fulfilment of prophecy, and other topics equally unconnected, it is evident that there is too much play upon the word chosen as the title of the book. Sometimes the writer means by discovery the inventive faculty in man, sometimes the fancy and imagination, or he uses the word objectively, and describes the results of research, physical or mental, or enlarges on the pleasures resulting from the happy exercise of skill, or the fortunate revelations of Providence. The poem indeed opens with an invocation to a spirit, personified under the title of *Discovery*, but the delineation is not such as to enable us to picture her as a classic muse or goddess. The general effect of the poem is marred by this indistinctness of plan, but there are separate passages of true poetical merit. The first canto opens with the account of the discovery of America, the apostrophe to Columbus being in this strain:—

"What dreams were thine, while gazing o'er the main  
Imagination rocked the sleepless brain,  
Scented the sweets Arabian breezes bear  
In the soft fragrance of the morning air,  
Wrought mirage with the mist's fantastic wreath,  
And reared a palace from the rocks beneath!  
E'en when stern Reason had resumed her seat,  
And Fancy trembled at her lordly feet;  
How didst thou yearn to clasp the virgin prize  
So coyly shrouded from thy love-sick eyes,  
Fulfil the hope a thousand joyous things  
Had proudly wafted on their halcyon wings,  
And find, upon Cipango's golden shore,  
The vision of thy life a dream no more."

From the part of the poem on the opening perceptions of the human mind, we quote some pleasing lines:—

"Oh for those happy hours for ever fled,  
When Innocence her early dew-drops shed,  
And, pendent still on boyhood's tender spray,  
They hung impatient of the opening day,  
Or hailed, unskilled in life's delusive glow,  
The ruby beam so soon to lay them low!  
Ye blessed hours! though Time's relentless maze,  
Rise like a mist before our after-days;  
Though all that spread in varied tints between  
Faded from the eye as though it had not been;  
Still, still unchanged the gathering mists above  
Ye beam upon us with your smiles of love,  
And crown the lengthening vistas of the mind,  
Like sunlit peaks for ever left behind!  
Then, in what joyous guise the Spring came round;  
With what a shout was golden Autumn crowned;  
How blue the skies were; how the landscape smiled  
Seen through the lightsome vision of a child;  
And how each soft and mystic influence  
Tushed to the soul through every thirsty sense  
That now so cold and indolent appears!  
We all were poets in our tender years!  
E'en though our infant lips were never taught  
To wing with words the unutterable thought!"

From the dedication to Professor Malden, and other incidental allusions, we gather that Mr. Leatham is an *alumnus* of University College, London, and his book bears proofs of the broad and liberal studies of that seat of learning.

*An Expository Lexicon of the Terms, Ancient and Modern, in Medical and General Science, including a Complete Medical and Medico-Legal Vocabulary.* By R. G. Mayne, M.D. Part I. Churchill.

THIS dictionary of the technical terms employed in medicine and in the kindred sciences is admirable in its design, and promises to prove a work of great usefulness both for professional study and for purposes of general consultation. Along with explanations of the words, their derivation, pronunciation, and applications are indicated, with analogues and synonyms. Dr. Mayne has long made scientific nomenclature his special study, and in this 'Lexicon' will present the results of his varied and laborious researches and studies. As a book of reference for literary men, who have to read and write on a diversity of subjects, Dr. Mayne's 'Lexicon' will be most valuable.

*Records of Alderbrook; or, Fanny Forester's Village Sketches.* By Emily Judson. Sampson Low and Son.

AMONG the many books for young people by American authoresses, this is one which we commend with hearty confidence to the notice of English readers. Very pleasing are the tales of village life, and very interesting the notices of national customs and manners, in the 'Records of Alderbrook,' by Fanny Forester. It will not diminish the interest felt in the work, when we tell those to whom it is new, that the memorials are of a real town in the state of New York, Morrisville, the birth-place and early residence of Mrs. Emily Judson, the wife of Dr. Judson, the well-known missionary in Burmah. Her introduction to Dr. Judson was remarkable. She was teacher of a School at Utica, and devoted her leisure hours to literature, many of the Alderbrook papers having appeared in periodical magazines. Her best known work is the 'Memoir of Mrs. S. R. Judson,' the first wife of the missionary, to whom she was herself married not long after its publication. The lively style and genial spirit of Mrs. Judson's sketches are sure to render them attractive to young readers, to whom they will at the same time convey lessons of wisdom and piety.

*The British Almanack, and Companion to the Almanack for 1854.* C. Knight.

THIS Almanack, established by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, retains its wonted superiority in the variety and importance of its contents. Besides the usual matter of such annuals, 'The British Almanack and Companion' contains many statistical and official documents, with abstracts of Acts of Parliament, analysis of the census of 1851, trade and financial reports, record of events of 1852-53, and original papers, among which is one on the proposed decimal currency by Professor De Morgan. The volume is full of valuable and useful information.

#### SUMMARY.

AN English edition has been commenced of the admirable series of historical books for the young, by the well-known and esteemed American author, Jacob Abbott (Nathaniel Cooke). *Jacob Abbott's Histories* consist of memorials of distinguished names in ancient and modern times, twelve volumes devoted to the former and twelve to the latter, including Cyrus, Alexander, Hannibal, Caesar, Darius, Xerxes, Alfred the Great, William the Conqueror, Cleopatra, Elizabeth, Mary of Scotland, and others equally renowned. The author's plan in the selection is to take sovereigns or rulers whose personal character or exploits present interesting matter, and who are at the same time connected with important epochs or events in general history. The study of the series of ancient and modern biographies will, therefore, afford an instructive sketch of the history of the country and time of the subject of the memoir, with introductory and connecting matter on topics suggested by the narrative. Mr. Cooke's English edition, which is published under the author's sanction, is illustrated with numerous wood engravings, and will form a series of neat as well as instructive volumes for juvenile libraries. The matter of the histories does not need commendation, as the abilities and principles of Mr. Abbott are widely known from his other publications, and he has undertaken this work with the avowed object of inculcating moral lessons while imparting useful information.

A popular introduction to Geology, under the title of *The Globe Prepared for Man* (W. J. Adams), is written by the author of *The Observing Eye; or, Letters on Natural History*. For the information of the young, and for inspiring a taste for geological studies, this little treatise is admirably fitted. The works of the best and most recent geologists have been used in the compilation, and the facts of the science are presented in



an attractive and simple style. With the labours of Lyall, Buckland, Sedgwick, Murchison, Ansted, Hugh Miller, and others, both in England and America, the author seems familiar, and has given frequent and appropriate quotations from their writings.

Mrs. Bray, authoress of the 'Life of Stothard,' has written a book of fairy tales, *A Peep at the Pixies; or, Legends of the West* (Grant and Griffiths), with illustrations by Hablot K. Browne. The book is of a kind which is sure to amuse young people, and is at the same time not devoid of higher interest, as embodying some of the old English legendary lore, and local superstitions of the western districts.

In Bentley's 'Railway Library,' a double volume contains a reprint of the translation of M. Leon de Wailly's historical romance, *Stella and Vanessa*, by Lady Duff Gordon. Few Frenchmen could have entered so well into the spirit of the times and the scenes; and though the defence of Swift does not receive the approval of most Englishmen, many will be pleased to read the account of Swift's private life and character by an author so lively and well-informed as M. de Wailly.

Among books for young people, is a capital version of the *Memoirs of Puss and the Captain: a Story of a Cat and Dog, founded on fact*, by the author of 'The Doll and her Friends,' with illustrations by Hablot K. Browne (Grant and Griffiths). The story of the dog returning to the country for his feline companion, and of the journey to London, is well told; and the example of Puss and Captain is given as a new and better method of 'living like cat and dog.' *The Elder Brothers; or, Protectors and Tyrants: a Good Story for boys*, by Mrs. Thomas Geldart (Hall, Virtue, and Co.) For girls somewhat older, a tale, *Ernengarde Sydney; or, Home Sketches* (Hope and Co.)

Sir George Sinclair, Bart., has addressed "to the people of Scotland," in the form of letters, *Miscellaneous Thoughts on Popery, Prelacy, and Presbyterianism* (Johnstone and Hunter), containing many facts and arguments, and imbued with the sturdy Protestant spirit of the north.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Acting Charades, by the Brothers Mayhew, square cloth, 5s.  
Advent Readings from the Fathers, 12mo, cloth, 5s.  
Aguilar's (G.) Home Influence, 6th edition, fcap. 8vo, 6s. 6d.  
Anadol: the Last Home of the Faithful, 8vo, cloth, 12s.  
Bishop's (J.) Stories of Animated Nature, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
Bohn's British Classics: Gibbon's Roman Empire, V. 1, 3s. 6d.  
— Classical Library: Justin, Cornelius Nepos, &c., 5s.  
— Illustrated Library: Handbook of London, 5s.  
— Standard Library: Ranks's Servia, post 8vo, 3s. 6d.  
Book (The) and its Story, new edition, crown 8vo, cloth, 4s.  
Brough's (R. B.) Cracker Bon Bon, square cloth, 3s. 6d.  
Buckley's (Rev. T. A.) Drawings of a Genius, fcp. 8vo, 3s. 6d.  
Cherry and Violet, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
Clinton's Epit. Fasti Romani, 8vo, cloth, 7s.  
Crowe's (Mrs.) Linny Lockwood, 2 vols., post 8vo, cloth, 7s.  
Dennell's Vivian Gray, 12mo, boards, 2s.  
Edgar Clifton, by C. Adams, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 5s.  
Edgar's (J. G.) Boyhood of Great Men, new edit., 12mo, 3s. 6d.  
Footprints of Famous Men, 12mo, 3s. 6d.  
Evelyn's Diary, new edition, Vol. 2, crown 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
Feathered Favourites, royal 8vo, cloth, 18s.; morocco, £1 8s.  
Gibbon's Rome, new edition, 1 vol. 8vo, cloth, 15s.  
Gisborne's Essay on Agriculture, 8vo, sewed, 5s.  
Gosse's (P. H.) British Ornithology, square 8vo, 10s. 6d.  
Greenfield's (G.) Tree Lifter, 2nd edition, 8vo, cloth, 12s.  
Griffith's (E.) World Worship, crown 8vo, cloth, 4s. 6d.  
Hall's Pilgrimages to English Shrines, new ed., 1 vol., £1 1s.  
Harpocrations Lexicon, by Dindorf, 2 vols. 8vo, £1 1s.  
Haydon's (R. B.) Life, new edition, 3 vols. post 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.  
Henry's Rome, new edition, 18mo, cloth, 2s.  
Hildebrandt's (C.) Winter in Spitzbergen, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
Home Thoughts, Vol. 1, 2s. 6d.  
Horace, illustrated, 250 cuts, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
Kimber's (T.) Mathematical Course, &c., 8vo, cloth, 9s.  
Krummacher's Elijah, royal 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
Lawyer's (The) Story, fcap. 8vo, boards, 1s. 6d.  
Le Nouveau Tresor, new edition, 12mo, bound, 3s. 6d.  
Lily Gordon the Young Housekeeper, by Cousin Kate, 4s. 6d.  
Luther's Life, by E. J. May, 12mo, cloth, 5s.  
Luther's School Days, by Gustavus Konig, imperial 8vo, cloth, 12s.  
Macdonald and Allan's Botanist's Word Book, 1s. 6d.  
Mackay's (A.) Western India, 8vo, cloth, 12s.  
Maud; a City Autobiography, 3 vols. post 8vo, cloth, 12s.  
Maurice's Moral and Metaphysical Philosophy, 3rd edit., 5s.  
May's History of the Long Parliament, 8vo, cloth, 6s. 6d.  
Meadows's (A.) Happy Days of Childhood, illustrated, 4s. 6d.  
Memoirs of the Rajah Sir J. Brooke, 3 vols. p. 8vo, £1 11s. 6d.  
— Princess Palatine, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.  
Milner's Garden, Grove, and Field, new edition, 12mo, 3s. 6d.  
Missionary Memorials, 12mo, cloth, 2s.

Montgomery's (R.) Pottical Works, 1 vol. 8vo, cloth, £1.  
Morris's Religion and Business, new edition, fcap. 8vo, 2s. 6d.  
Napier's Battles and Sieges of the Peninsula, 8vo, cloth, 10s.  
— (Sir C.) Indian Misgovernment, 2nd edition, 7s. 6d.  
— (W.) Administration of Scinde, 8vo, cloth, 12s.  
National Library, Vol. 34—Pope's Works, Vol. 3, 2s. 6d.  
Northern Coasts of America, &c., illustrated, 4s. 6d.; gilt, 5s.  
Open and Sec, new edition, 16mo, cloth, 2s.  
Oriental Fairy Tales, fcap. 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
Pleasant Reading for Young People, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
Poetical Works of Kirk White and Campbell, illust., 4s. 6d.  
Poets of the Woods, royal 8vo, cloth, 15s.; morocco, £1 5s.  
Poole's (E.) Index to Periodical Literature, royal 8vo, £1 5s.  
Psalms (The) Restored to Messiah, crown 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
Purchar's (Rev. J.) Book of Feasts, 12mo, cloth, 6s.  
Richardson's (Captain) Horsemanship, 8vo, half bound, 11s.  
Round Games for all Parties, square cloth, 5s.  
Ruth Earnley; a Tale by Mrs. M. Daniels, 3 vols., £1 11s. 6d.  
Saturday and Sunday Thoughts, 18mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
Schoedler's Book of Nature, new edition, 1 vol., 10s. 6d.  
— Elements of Botany, 2nd edition, post 8vo, 1s. 6d.  
Seabury's Continuity of the Church of England, 8vo, &c., 7s.  
Sermons for Christian Seasons, Vols. 3 and 4, each 4s.  
Sigourney's (L. H.) Olive Leaves, 12mo, 2s. 6d.; gilt, 3s.  
Spencer's Cross on the Manor House, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
Summer Days; or, the Cousins, 12mo, cloth, 1s. 6d.  
Swiss Family Robinson, illustrated, 3s. 6d.; gilt, 4s.  
Tales from the Boyhood of Great Patriots, 3s. 6d.; gilt, 4s.  
Temple's (Rose Ellen) Real and Ideal, 8vo, cloth, 10s. 6d.  
Thompson's (Rev. H.) Outlines of Sermons, 2 vols., 12s.  
— (H.) Structures of the Urthra, 8vo, cloth, 10s.  
— (F.) Pulmonary Consumption, 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
Wallace's (R.) Travels on the Amazon and Rio Negro, 18s.  
Willis's Summer Cruise in the Mediterranean, 2s.; gilt, 2s. 6d.  
Wilson's Sacra Privata, new edition, 12mo, cloth, 6s.  
Winslow's (O.) Work of the Holy Spirit, 6th edition, 5s.

## EDUCATIONAL USES OF MUSEUMS.

PROFESSOR EDWARD FORBES'S lecture on the opening of the third session of the Government School of Science has been printed, and speaks well for the progress of that Institution. The number of entries in the matriculated class of students is greater this year than during either of the former years, and of those who were lately pupils some have obtained highly valuable and honourable posts, for which they had become qualified within its walls. The advantages offered to officers of the public service, especially to officers of the army and navy, have been embraced chiefly by engineers and medical officers in the East India Company's Service. This has probably led to the institution of a new lectureship on Applied Mechanics; and in the appointment of Professor Willis to that office the School of Science has acquired a new and valuable source of strength. The lectures, delivered at an almost nominal fee to the working classes, have been largely attended, the artisans of London crowding to the theatre on every occasion with unmistakable earnestness and intelligence. But we call attention to the Professor's lecture more for the sake of one or two important hints on the educational uses of museums in general. Considering the value it might be to the country to know a little more of the geology of our colonies, the lecturer lays great stress upon the desirableness of forming a good collection of the mineral products of our possessions in other parts of the world.

"Whilst the collections here displayed are mainly confined to the mineral products of the British islands, there is one department in this building, represented at present by three or four wall-cases, that I cannot refer to without the deepest interest, insignificant though it may now seem. I allude to that of Colonial Geology. The idea of it is to exhibit the mineral products of each of our colonies separately, the evidences of their geological constitution, and the indications of their mineral wealth. Such a display would be more than a curious and interesting illustration of the products of those countries for the benefit of persons at home. It would be a source of instruction of the most vivid kind to all thoughtful men intending to emigrate,—and most emigrants are thoughtful, at least before they go. Over and over again, when working at the arrangement of the cabinets in our galleries, I have been addressed by intelligent persons of this class who have come here in the hope of meeting with a collection of the kind I have mentioned, and of passing some time in the study of it. With feelings akin to shame I have shown them our shabby though not worthless display, and endeavoured to make it the text of con-

versation and advice. Surely it would be worthy of a great empire like ours to possess, in the metropolis of all its world-strewn states, some sufficient illustration of their structure and productions. I speak not merely of their mineral productions, which are all that we can aim at here, but of their works of art and industry, their natural productions of all kinds, and illustrations of their history and of their ethnology. It is true that many of these are embodied in general collections, and form an essential part of systematically arranged cabinets. But what we require is to see them distinctly grouped with regard to their geography; so that, for example, the emigrant proceeding to Australia might come and learn before he departed, and the officer ordered on duty to India or the West Indies might acquire an acquaintance with the structure and products of those countries that would enable him when there to occupy his spare time in research useful to himself and beneficial to his country. All that is required for carrying out such a collection is space. Contributors anxious and able to assist would be found in numbers. Those who have derived some benefit and knowledge from their studies in the Museum before leaving, would when abroad add judiciously and gratefully to its contents. Indeed there are at present extensive and valuable collections of colonial specimens lying useless, packed in boxes, that might be had for the asking, provided it could be shown that there was a proper place in which to arrange them for the public benefit."

A great deal, too, might be effected in England by having a better system of organization among our provincial museums.

"Unfortunately not a few country museums are little better than rare-shows. They contain an incongruous accumulation of things curious or supposed to be curious, heaped together in disorderly piles, or neatly spread out with ingenious disregard of their relations. The only label attached to nine specimens out of ten is, 'Presented by Mr. or Mrs. So-and-so,' the object of the presentation having been either to cherish a glow of generous self-satisfaction in the bosom of the donor, or to get rid—under the semblance of doing a good action—of rubbish that had once been prized, but latterly had stood in the way. Curiosities from the South Seas, relics worthless in themselves, deriving their interest from association with persons or localities, a few badly stuffed quadrupeds, rather more birds, a stuffed snake, a skinned alligator, part of an Egyptian mummy, Indian gods, a case or two of shells, the bivalves usually single and the univalves decorticated, a sea urchin without its spines, a few common corals, the fruit of a double cocoa-nut, some mixed antiquities, partly local, partly Etruscan, partly Roman and Egyptian, and a case of minerals and miscellaneous fossils,—such is the inventory and about the scientific order of their contents. I have a vivid remembrance of going through the Cheetham collection at Manchester, and hearing the explanation of its contents by one of the boys on the foundation, when I was of small size myself. The peculiar classification that mystified sightseers thirty years ago is in too many instances still maintained.

"There are, however, admirable exceptions to this censure. There are local collections arranged with skill and judgment in several of our county towns, and which at a glance tell us of the neighbourhood and activity of a few guiding and enlightened men of science. It would be invidious to cite examples, and yet the principles, in each case distinct, adopted in the arrangement of those of Ipswich and Belfast ought especially to be noticed. In the former, thanks to the advice and activity of Professor Henslow, the specimens of various kinds, whether antiquarian, natural history, or industrial, are so arranged as to convey distinct notions of principles, practice, or history. In the Belfast Museum the eminent naturalists and antiquarians who have given celebrity to their town have made its contents at a glance explanatory of the geology, zoology, botany, and ancient history of the locality and neighbouring province. The museums of Man-

chester, York, Scarborough, and Newcastle might be cited as highly commendable likewise, thanks to the science and ability of the eminent men connected with them, or who have taken an interest in their formation."

Some organised arrangement for the exchange of specimens might be adopted with great advantage to the country, and the British Museum might exercise a large and useful paternity in this respect.

"In every museum of natural history, and probably in those devoted to other objects, there gradually, often rapidly, accumulates a store of duplicates, that if displayed in the collection, render it more difficult to be studied than if they were away altogether, occupying as they do valuable space and impeding the understanding of the relations and sequence of the objects classified. If, as is sometimes the case, they are rejected from the collection and stowed away in boxes or cellars, they are still in the way, for cellars and storage—as we know here, from the want of them, to our detriment,—are indispensable for the proper conducting of the arrangements of museums. Yet out of these duplicates, more or less perfect sets of specimens might be made up, of very high value for purposes of instruction. A well-organized system of mutual interchange and assistance would be one of the most efficient means of making museums generally valuable aids to education. Much money, when money is at the command of curators or committees, is spent in purchasing what might be obtained for asking or through exchange. Some objects of great scientific interest, but equally costly, might be purchased by one establishment only, and made fully as useful, instead of being bought in duplicate by two or more contiguous institutions. The larger institutions might supply the smaller; and out of the national stores, numerous examples—to them almost worthless, but to provincial establishments highly valuable—might be contributed with facility and greatly to the public benefit."

The following masterly summary of the benefits likely to arise from such a condition of things is most honourable to the head and heart of the writer, and should be read and re-read by everyone interested in the humanizing of our race and people.

"Museums, of themselves alone, are powerless to educate. But they can instruct the educated, and excite a desire for knowledge in the ignorant. The labourer who spends his holiday in a walk through the British Museum, cannot fail to come away with a strong and reverential sense of the extent of knowledge possessed by his fellow-men. It is not the objects themselves that he sees there and wonders at, that make this impression, so much as the order and evident science which he cannot but recognise in the manner in which they are grouped and arranged. He learns that there is a meaning and value in every object however insignificant, and that there is a way of looking at things common and rare, distinct from the regarding of them as useless, useful, or curious,—the three terms of classification in favour of the ignorant. He goes home and thinks over it; and when a holiday in summer, or a Sunday's afternoon in spring, tempts him with his wife and little ones to walk into the fields, he finds that he has acquired a new interest in the stones, in the flowers, in the creatures of all kinds that throng around him. He can look at them with an inquiring pleasure, and talk of them to his children with a tale about things like them that he had seen ranged in order in the Museum. He has gained a new sense,—a thirst for natural knowledge, one promising to quench the thirst for beer and vicious excitement that tortured him of old. If his intellectual capacity be limited and ordinary, he will become a better citizen and happier man; if in his brain there be dormant power, it may waken up to make him a Watt, a Stephenson, or a Miller."

"Every shilling granted judiciously by the State for purposes of education and instruction, for the promotion of schools, libraries, and museums, is a seed that will in the end generate a rich crop of

good citizens. Out of sound knowledge spring charity, loyalty, and patriotism—the love of our neighbours, the love of just authority, and the love of our country's good. In proportion as these virtues flourish, the weeds of idleness, viciousness, and crime perish. Out of sound knowledge will arise in time civilization and peace. At present it is folly and self-conceit in nations to claim to be civilized, otherwise than as contrasted with savage barbarity. The admiration of physical prowess, the honouring of tinsel and pomp, the glorification of martial renown, are far too deeply inrooted yet in the spirit of the most cultivated nations to permit of the noble epithet 'civilized' being appended to their names. The nobility of industry in all its grades,—first soul-work, the labour of genius—then head-work, the labour of talent,—then hand-work, the honest labour of the body striving in the cause of peace—must be honoured by state and people, before either can with truthfulness claim to be civilized. We are at best as yet but enlightened barbarians. Think how all Europe and half Asia have stood for months, and are even now standing, on the verge of foul and barbarous war; how Christian nations have girded on their armour, and, with mutual distrust and well-grounded suspicion, have stood with hand on sword-hilt ready to guard or to strike; think of what is worse, of the crime and ignorance that fester in the byways of Christian cities, and then boast of civilization if you can. The arts, the sciences, taste, literature, skill, and industry seem to have thriven among us in spite of ourselves—to have come among mankind like good spirits, and by main force to have established themselves on earth. They struggle with us and conquer us for our welfare, but are not yet our rulers. Sent from Heaven, aided by the few, not by the many, they have made firm their footing. If the monarchs and presidents of the states of the earth knew wherein the best interest of themselves and their people lay, it is in these intellectual invaders they would confide. The cost of armaments and the keep of criminals would cease in time unproductively to drain their treasures. But ambition and strife are sturdy demons yet, and the educator, who dreams of their enchainment, and anticipates the speedy approach of a peaceful millenium, has but a limited acquaintance with the condition of mankind, and the hearts of its governors."

"I cannot help hoping that the time will come when every British town even of moderate size will be able to boast of possessing public institutions for the education and instruction of its adults as well as its youthful and childish population,—when it shall have a well-organized museum, wherein collections of natural bodies shall be displayed, not with regard to show or curiosity, but according to their illustration of the analogies and affinities of organized and unorganized objects, so that the visitor may at a glance learn something of the laws of nature,—wherein the products of the surrounding district, animate and inanimate, shall be scientifically marshalled, and their industrial applications carefully and suggestively illustrated,—wherein the memorials of the history of the neighbouring province, and the races that have peopled it, shall be reverently assembled, and learnedly, yet popularly, explained; when each town shall have a library, the property of the public, and freely open to the well-conducted reader of every class; when its public walks and parks (too many as yet existing only in prospect) shall be made instructors in botany and agriculture; when it shall have a gallery of its own, possibly not boasting of the most famous pictures or statues, but nevertheless showing good examples of sound art, examples of the history and purpose of design, and, above all, the best specimens to be procured of works of genius by its own natives who have deservedly risen to fame."

"My picture may seem a dream," says the Professor, "but I have faith sufficient in England and Englishmen to believe that in the course of time it will come to pass. Had the foresight of the present crossed the imagination of an ancient Briton, he might have hoped for its

realization in another world, scarcely in this. But a simple belief in the probability of State and people advancing in intellectual aims and true civilization, and working them out through the length and breadth of the land, is essentially too wholesome and compatible with the progress of Christianized human nature, not to find an embodiment in a coming reality."

#### TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

COLCHESTER has always proved a rich field for the antiquary. Beyond the memory of man, coins, paterae, urns, weapons, utensils, statues, have from time to time been brought to light in this once famous town, the capital of the British King Cunobeline, the site of a temple to the deified Emperor Claudius, and the place where, according to the Roman historian, victory turned her back on the conquerors of the Britons. Specimens of fictile ware have been discovered at Colchester, within the last twenty years, enough to stock a museum. Among the sepulchral urns discovered recently on the site of the ancient burial-ground at West Lodge, is a cinerary urn of dark red pottery, covered with figures representing the sports of the amphitheatre. In one of the compartments are two gladiators engaged in combat. One appears to be wounded, and has dropped his weapon, a trident, appealing to the spectators for mercy. His appeal is vain, as is indicated by the advance of his adversary with uplifted blade. Another group exhibits men in the act of subduing a bear. The dresses and appointments of the gladiators are strikingly depicted; even the nails in the shoes of one of them are represented. This urn, according to Mr. Roach Smith, is about nine inches in height, and about six inches in diameter. It was found filled with calcined human bones, and carefully covered with an inverted *mortarium*. Several other vessels stood around the urn. Besides the group already described, there are others depicted on it, one of them representing a hare hunt. That of the men with the bear is curious enough: the principal actor has a concave buckler on his left arm, and in his right hand flourishes a whip. The upturned head and extended jaws of bruin plainly evince a distaste to the discipline. Above the head of the bear-ward is inscribed SECUNDVS . MARIO. The gladiators evidently represent a *secutor* and a *retarius*. On the line of the head of the first is the inscription MEMN . SAC . VIII., the first word of which, according to Mr. Smith, may be *Mennius* or *Memnon*. Should the A be in the place of E, it would imply that the gladiator belonged to the *numerus*, or band of *secutores*, the numerals probably implying that he had been victor nine times. The defeated figure has above his head VALENTINVS . LEGIONIS . XXX. The inscriptions appear to be cut with a graving-tool upon the urn, and are probably additions applied to it after it was moulded. The urn, Mr. Smith states, belongs to that peculiar kind of pottery which we know was certainly manufactured on the banks of the Nen in Northamptonshire. The same kind of pottery has been found both in France and in Flanders, but that with the figures of men and animals seems to be confined to England. All the ornaments on this ware appear to have been laid on after the vessels had been formed, in what is technically called *slip*, the application of which was performed with much skill. The *mortarium* with which this interesting sepulchral urn was closed appears to have protected it effectually.

On the subject of Juvenile Delinquency, and the establishment of prevention and reformatory industrial schools, another conference is summoned, at Dec's Hotel, Birmingham, on the 20th instant. About two years ago, it will be remembered, a meeting was held at the same place, attended by many who are well known for their active interest in the question, and resolutions were adopted as the basis of future operations. During the interval public attention has been increasingly turned to the condition of the criminal and destitute children of our population. It is now generally felt, that mere punishment in prison is not only rarely



effective as a preventive from future crime, but that the contact with older and more experienced convicts trains the young for bolder courses of evil conduct. The necessity of remedial and reformatory institutions is forcing itself on the notice of public men, even on financial and political grounds, apart from higher considerations of morality and Christian benevolence. The expenses of prison management, the loss of honest industry, likely to be felt more severely through the thinning of labourers by emigration, the abandonment of transportation as a secondary punishment, and other circumstances, combine to render immediate attention to the subject advisable. The Government has expressed readiness to promote any practicable and proper scheme for meeting the evils of juvenile delinquency. A bill, founded on the report of a select committee of the House of Commons, was introduced at the close of last session, for establishing reformatory schools throughout England. The judicious agitation of the question will meanwhile strengthen the hands of the promoters of this bill, if again brought before parliament. The circular inviting to the conference at Birmingham is signed by many influential names, including Lords Harrowby, Lyttelton, Denbigh, Calthorpe, Leigh, the Bishop of Worcester, Sir J. S. Pakington, Sir Robert Peel, C. B. Adderley, M.P., R. Monckton Milnes, M.P., G. F. Munzt, M.P., William Miles, M.P., the Mayor and the Recorder of Birmingham, the Lord Mayor of London, and many others of high official station or personal influence. Some of the objects already announced by the committee commend themselves to general approval, such as the establishment of correctional and reformatory industrial schools, separate from the ordinary educational institutions of the country, and the power being conferred on magistrates to commit juvenile offenders to such schools instead of to prison. At the same time it is to be observed that such schools might conveniently form part of the existing system, and that caution should be used in drawing a distinction between schools for moral and industrial training, and the routine branches of intellectual instruction. A proper system of national education ought to embrace both departments, and render the establishment of correctional and reformatory schools comparatively needless.

Many of our readers are doubtless well acquainted with the numerous badges and memorials of Charles the First, worn by the Cavalier party, immediately after the death of their royal master. Mr. Edward Hawkins published some of the most remarkable of these in a recent number of the 'Numismatic Chronicle.' They consist chiefly of oval medals, having on one side the portrait of Charles, and on the other that of his queen or his son. Some are fashioned in the form of a heart, which is made hollow to receive portions of the hair of the unfortunate monarch. We have recently seen in the shop of a picture dealer in London, a portrait which plainly shows us how these badges were worn by the adherents of the king. The portrait has an inscription, 'Sir Robert Cooke of Highnam, in Gloucestershire, 1629.' The costume is that of a Cavalier of the period, with a buff coat and gorget, and from the neck depends, on a black ribbon, a head of Charles the First crowned, beneath which is a skull and cross-bones. The portrait is very coarsely painted, and the owner absurdly attributes it to Vandyke, but, viewed historically, it is not without its interest, as indicating the manner in which these memorials were used by the Cavalier party.

There has been a talk in France lately of the production of some of the private correspondence of the late Prince de Talleyrand. As the prince gave positive orders that the Memoirs of his life which he wrote, and selections from his letters and private papers, should not be published until at least thirty years after his death, and as only half that period has thus far elapsed, M. de Bacourt, one of his executors, has publicly notified that he will employ legal means to prevent the printing of the papers in question. That he will be able to do so in France is possible; but it is not clear that he

would have the same power in England or Belgium. And we hear that it is not unlikely that the publication, if prevented in France, may be made in one or other country.

A collection of not fewer than 352 sonnets, by Baron W. Humboldt, one of the most eminent statesmen of Prussia, has just been published at Berlin, under the auspices of the king. They are on all imaginable subjects, and were written by the baron after his retirement from public life.

The Academy of Inscriptions et Belles Lettres at Paris held its annual sitting a few days ago, for the distribution of prizes to the most meritorious works produced during the year, and to the best essay on given subjects. Mr. Waddington's account of his journey in Asia Minor carried off the numismatic prize.

Negotiations have been pending within the last few days for the establishment of a School of Design at Great Yarmouth, but the result has not yet been made public. The Town Council of the borough have appointed a permanent committee to secure the future preservation of the records of the borough, a great number of which have been lost within the last few years, and their measure is worthy the attention of other corporate bodies throughout the kingdom.

The valuable collections of fossils and minerals belonging to the late eminent German geologist, Louis von Buch, have been purchased, by order of the King of Prussia, for the Museum of Natural History at Berlin. His extensive library, chiefly on the natural sciences, has also been purchased by his Majesty.

"On Saturday," says a correspondent at Dresden, in a letter dated Monday last, "I attended the second of a series of concerts given by Herrn Goldschmidt, Schubert, and Kummer. The evening will be memorable in the annals of the musical world, as that on which Madame Jenny Goldschmidt made her first appearance in public since her marriage and return from America. For days previously the music-shop from which tickets were issued had been besieged by the public of Dresden, and many hundreds were turned away disappointed. It was with much anxiety that I saw the hour of the concert approach; I knew Madame Goldschmidt had been ill and hoarse for many days, and it was only at the last moment that she determined to sing rather than disappoint the expectant public. She had selected for her part in the concert the beautiful hymn, for solo and chorus, by Mendelssohn, 'Hör mein Bitten, Herr,' and, but that I felt grieved that she should make such exertion when suffering from hoarseness and indisposition, I should have enjoyed without a drawback the perfect expression she gave to this most lovely music. The manner which she gave the words, 'O könnt' ich fliegen wie Tauben dahin,' had something in it which seemed to carry one far from this dull earth away into the blue heavens. Her voice is as fine as it ever was; and in the songs with which she finished her evening's performance, one felt as much as ever her infinite superiority to all the singers of the present day, evinced equally in the supernatural charm of her simple style, as in the most brilliant and difficult *fortitude* of the modern Italian school. The other pieces of the evening were a Quartett in E flat by Mozart; a violin solo by Paganini, played by Herr Concertmeister Schubert, and the D minor Trio by Mendelssohn; in both the concerted pieces Herr Goldschmidt took the pianoforte. I shall take another opportunity to speak of the playing of this rising artist."

The new music-room, St. Martin's Hall, was inaugurated on Thursday evening, by a performance of vocal and instrumental music under the direction of Mr. John Hullah. Some fine pieces were given, including Haydn's Te Deum, for the first time in this country, and passages from Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Gluck, and other masters. The second season of the Harmonic Union commenced on Monday at Exeter Hall, with the performance of the *Messiah*. Madame Viardot

Garcia was to have appeared, but, being prevented by illness, her part was taken by Miss Birch, Miss Stalbach, and Miss Lascelles. At the Wednesday evening concert this week, selections from Weber and Meyerbeer formed the prominent feature. Another Mendelssohn night is to be given next week.

The pupils of the Musical School at Leipsic performed Mendelssohn's oratorio, *Saint Paul*, a few days ago, with a good deal of pomp, to celebrate the anniversary of his birthday. In the same city two operas, formerly very popular, have been revived, one, Cherubini's *Two Days*, the other, Von Dittendorff's *Physician and Apothecary*.

Madame Frezzolini has made her debut at the Italian Theatre, at Paris, and has been well received.

Mlle. Wagner has been singing at Berlin, in the *Huguenots*.

Our letters this week from Berlin and Dresden both speak of the effective representation, in those cities, of a new play, by Madame Birch-Pfeiffer, founded on the story of Jane Eyre, entitled *Die Waise von Lowood*. "We cannot deny to Frau Birch-Pfeiffer," says our Dresden correspondent, "the power of producing what are vulgarly called effective pieces. An actress herself, she understands well how to work upon her public, to awaken its interest, to keep up the excitement of her play; but poetry flies at her approach, nature disguises herself in conventionality and the last fashions, and hollow and untrue sentiments, professing to be moral (wolves in sheep's clothing), take the place of the true lessons in morality, which a thinking mind draws only from the contemplation of human nature as she is in all her combined strength and weakness. It is painful to remark how the great mass of the German public is carried away by the writings of this lady; pocket-handkerchiefs are always in great request when her name is on the play-bill; the audience is melted to tears at her overstrained sentiments, and is made happy by the catastrophes of her plays, in which a sensible observer sees only a violation of all natural feeling and poetic truth. Of the acting of the *Orphan of Lowood*, I can speak with much praise. It was evident, from her rendering of the character of *Jane Eyre*, that Frau Bayer-Bürek had carefully read the original story. Her acting on this occasion was truly admirable; the delicacy with which she brought out the points of Jane's character, and the perfect proportion and consistency of the whole, left nothing to be desired, and must raise her in the estimation of all lovers of her art. Emil Devrient, now so well known to the English public, played the part of *Rochester* with much ability, but somewhat too little individuality, and I fancied I perceived in him the want of that study of the original character which I could trace so happily in Frau Bayer-Bürek's *Jane*. There was, however, much to admire in it, and especially in the second act, in which the characteristics of *Rochester* were more distinctly given than in those which followed. The play has had a "tremendous success" throughout Germany, has been given at all the principal theatres, and has excited the enthusiasm of critics as well as of the public."

At the Gaité, at Paris, the subjects and soldiers of His Imperial Majesty Nicholas I. are shown up in a huge piece of nine or ten *tableaux*, each *tableau* being a separate act. The piece is called *Les Cosaques*, and if it represents the truth, there can be no difficulty in settling the Eastern question, for half a dozen valiant Frenchmen suffice to rout a whole army of Cossacks, and a French sergeant finds no difficulty in compelling Russian generals and princes to fall on their knees and eat pounds on pounds of tallow candles, more humbly than Pistol ate his leek. Perhaps a piece of this character does not exactly prove the justice of the claim of the French to be the most enlightened, the most intelligent, the most *spirituel*, the most generous, the most chivalrous, the most polite, the most exquisite in taste, &c. &c., of any on earth; but as the Cossacks are about to make them smell



gunpowder on the Danube, they may be excused for quizzing and misrepresenting the Cossacks on the banks of the Seine. At all events, as far as the English are concerned, it is less disagreeable to see the Russians abused and libelled than poor *Hudonnelle* (the French way of pronouncing Hudson Lowe), and other abominable *milords*, with hair far redder than their red coats.

A dramatic adaptation of Madame George Sand's famous novel *Mauprat*, done by the lady herself, was produced at the Odéon Theatre, at Paris, on Monday last. It was of such enormous length, that the performance of it occupied from about half-past seven to half-past one! But it met with that success which all first night representations now obtain in Paris as a matter of course; and it may, by extensive curtailments, secure still greater, perhaps a lasting, success. It is—like all the other plays of George Sand—well written, thoroughly literary, and bearing the unmistakable impress of genius; but loosely constructed, void of a good plot, and terribly deficient in action and incident. Madame Sand seems not to be aware that a play is a thing to be *acted*—not a book to be spoken.

Complaints are rife, as usual at this season of the year, in reference to the erasures made in the Lord Chamberlain's office in the text of the forthcoming Christmas pantomimes; and the authors contend, in some instances, that the best portions of their works are struck out by the pen of the censor. On the whole, however, it must be admitted that a wise discretion is exercised by the acting examiner, Mr. W. B. Donne, the parts erased being generally of a personally offensive character. It appears, from the evidence of Mr. Norman Macdonald before a recent parliamentary committee, that in 1850, 230 pieces were submitted for Mr. Donne's approval, and every one was allowed to be presented to the public; in 1851, 228 passed through his hands, and five were rejected; and in 1852, three were suppressed out of 225. One was rejected on the ground of its gross immorality, two contained allusions likely to be offensive to the Roman Catholics, and two were notorious French works—*La Dame aux Camelias* and *La Tour de Nesle*.

The notorious *Dame aux Camelias* has just been reproduced at the Vaudeville Theatre, at Paris.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

**ROYAL.**—Nov. 30th.—The Anniversary of the Society was held this day, the Earl of Rosse, President, in the chair. After the delivery of his usual annual address on the state and prospects of science, his lordship awarded the medals as follows:—The Copley Medal to Professor Dove, of Berlin, for his work on the distribution of heat over the earth's surface; and the Royal Medal to Mr. Charles Darwin, the well-known naturalist and traveller, for his works on Natural History and Geology. The Society then proceeded to the election of council and officers for the ensuing year, when the following noblemen and gentlemen were elected:—*President:* the Earl of Rosse, K.P., M.A.—*Treasurer:* Colonel Edward Sabine, R.A.—*Secretaries:* Samuel Hunter Christie, Esq., M.A.; William Sharpey, M.D.—*Foreign Secretary:* Rear-Admiral W. H. Smyth.—*Other Members of the Council:* Thomas Bell, Esq.; Rev. James Booth, LL.D.; Warren de la Rue, Esq.; Captain Robert Fitzroy, R.N.; Thomas Graham, Esq., M.A.; William Robert Grove, Esq., M.A.; Joseph Dalton Hooper, M.D.; Thomas Henry Huxley, Esq.; Henry Bence Jones, M.D.; George Newport, Esq.; John Phillips, Esq.; Sir Frederick Pollock, M.A.; Rev. Baden Powell, M.A.; George Gabriel Stokes, Esq., M.A.; William Tite, Esq.; Charles Wheatstone, Esq.

**GEOGRAPHICAL.**—Nov. 28th.—Lord Colchester, Vice-President, in the chair. John Balfour, Esq., of Australia; Lieut.-Col. Fitzharding Berkeley; William Bull, Esq.; James C. Burnett, Esq., of

Australia; Capt. the Hon. W. Coke; William Halliday Conway, Esq.; Lieut. F. A. B. Craufurd, R.N.; J. Fayer, Esq., M.D., of Rangoon; John Griffith Firth, Esq.; Commr. Henry Richd. Foote, R.N.; Sir Edward Graham, Bart.; Lieut. P. A. Halkett, R.N.; Lord Arthur Hay; Thos. Irving, Esq.; Major H. Lloyd; Francis Le Breton, Esq.; George Mocatta, Esq.; Ashhurst Majendie, Esq.; Benjamin Oliveira, Esq., M.P.; Peter Robertson, Esq.; Christopher Rolleston, Esq.; Henry Danby Seymour, Esq., M.P.; William Silver, Esq.; John Harrison Smith, Esq., of Panama; John Henry Smith, Esq.; Peter C. Sutherland, Esq., M.D.; Geo. Faddy Tomlin, Esq.; Henry Fraser Walker, Esq.; J. King Watts, Esq.; Rob. Geo. Wm. Wear, Esq.; and Thomas Young, Esq., were elected Fellows of the Society.—The paper read was 'Journey into the Balkan or Mount Hæmus, with a comparison of the routes pursued by Darius Hystaspes, Alexander the Great, and Marshal Diebitch,' by Lieut.-General Jochmus, communicated by Sir Roderick Murchison.

**SOCIETY OF ARTS.**—Nov. 30th.—W. Bird, Esq., in the chair. The paper read was 'On the Consumption of Smoke,' by Mr. A. Fraser. The author commenced by remarking that it was not intended to enter upon the various theories which has been advanced upon the subject, or to discuss the many inventions before the public, still less to bring forward any new theory, but to give the "results of absolute work," in a successful attempt to remove the smoke nuisance from an extensive London brewery and its neighbourhood. Messrs. Truman, Hanbury, Buxton, and Co., had tried most of the plans which previous to 1847 gave reasonable hopes of success. It was unnecessary to allude to these, but a general remark might be made respecting many of them—viz., that any plan requiring additional attention on the part of the stoker—such as the opening or closing of air-valves—or giving him extra labour, which was required in some cases, was found in practice to be unsuccessful, although a single experiment, carefully conducted, might seem to prove the contrary. In 1847 the writer's attention was first drawn to Jucke's Patent Furnace, which consisted of a strong cast-iron frame of the full width of the furnace, and about three feet longer. The fire-bars were all connected together, forming, when complete, an endless chain, and were made to revolve round a drum, placed at each end of the frame. The front of the frame was provided with a hopper, in which the fuel was placed, and a furnace-door, which opened vertically with a worm and pinion. The height to which this door was raised by the stoker regulated the supply of coal, which was carried into the fire by the gradual motion of the bars. There was no doubt, from the former experiments, as to its capabilities for raising steam or for evaporation; but with a brewing copper provision had to be made for a process in the manufacture almost peculiar to it. The contents of the copper have to be turned out several times in the course of a brewing, rendering it necessary to 'bank up' the fire thoroughly, to protect the bottom of the copper, until filled with wort or water. It was feared that the machinery would interfere with this being done effectually: it was tried, and with the same success as with the steam-boilers. The remainder of the coppers and boilers were afterwards altered. The total cost of the fourteen furnaces, including brickwork, had been about 3000*l.* The consumption of coals in the establishment was about 6000 tons per annum. The saving in the coal account, since the introduction of the patent to July 1 of the present year, had been 833*l.*, from which must be deducted for casualties and sundries, say 350*l.* The above economy had not arisen from less weight of fuel consumed, but owing to the screenings or dust of coal only being required for the furnaces. Should the difference of price between large and small coals be reduced, the economy will be less in future years. It would appear at first sight that the wear and tear of a machine, apparently so complicated,

must exceed the expense of the common fixed bars. This, however, has not been found to be the case, and it need not be so if ordinary care was given to the machine, and a periodical examination such as any other machine of equal value and producing equally important results would receive. Within the last week a set of bars had been renewed for the first time, which had been in use since May, 1849; and three-fourths of the old bars were being again used for another furnace, where the boiler was of less importance than the one from which they have been removed.

**ANTIQUARIES.**—Nov. 24th.—J. P. Collier, Esq., V.P., in the chair. Mr. James James, Mr. H. Edmonstone Montgomerie, Mr. Digby Wyatt, Mr. H. Ingram, and Mr. J. J. Muir, were elected Fellows. Mr. Thomas Chapman exhibited some very beautiful examples of flint spear-heads, arrow-heads, and implements of the primeval period, found by Mr. Samuel Anderson, of Whitby, in ancient British tumuli in Yorkshire. Some of these specimens were of an unique description. They resembled rude combs, and were probably made for the same use; but it had been supposed by some that they were instruments used by the Britons for tattooing their bodies, although it is not recorded of them that they punctured their skins to effect this object.—Mr. Akerman read extracts from a letter addressed to him by Monsieur Troyon, of Bel Air, giving an account of the discovery, at Torny, of a stone sepulchre containing several skeletons, one of which had on the arms enormous jet bracelets. M. Troyon observed that the only bracelets of a similar description had been found in the counties of Bâle and Berne, in tumuli of the late Helvetic period, prior to the Roman conquest. He was desirous of ascertaining whether bracelets of the same kind had ever been found in England.—Mr. W. M. Wylie, in a letter to Mr. Akerman, communicated an account of his visit, in the autumn of the present year, to the Frank cemetery at Envermu, in company with the Abbé Cochet, the government inspector of arts and monuments for the department of the Seine Inférieure. Many skeletons were exhumed, and found to be accompanied by the usual relics deposited with the dead. Mr. Wylie observed on the very cognate character of the Frank and Anglo-Saxon interments, which differ simply as different tribes of the great Germanic population, and urged, in conclusion, the importance of a diligent comparison of the sepulchral usages of the two nations.—Mr. Collier presented to the Society several fac-similes of leaves from his annotated folio 'Shakspeare,' which had been executed by Mr. Netherclift in his most careful manner.

**Dec. 1st.**—The Viscount Mahon, President, in the Chair. Mr. Stafford Jerningham, of the 17th Lancers, Mr. W. B. Diamond, of Henley-in-Arden, Mr. T. Love Jones Parry, and Mr. Chapman Harnett, were severally elected Fellows. Other business was set aside for the purpose of discussing the Revised Statutes, the clauses of which were discussed until near midnight, when the ballot being taken, there appeared for their adoption—Ayes, 101; Noes, 4.

**CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—Nov. 15th and 22nd.—J. M. Rendel, Esq., President, in the chair. The discussion upon the paper 'On Ocean Steamers,' by Mr. Andrew Henderson, was commenced, by quoting from an article in the 'Edinburgh Journal,' by Professor Tenant, of St. Andrews, the dimensions of some of the large ships built by the ancients; whence it appeared that a ship constructed by Ptolemæus Philopater was 420 feet long and 56 feet broad, and 72 feet high from the keel to the prow, and was manned by four thousand rowers, four hundred servants, and two thousand eight hundred and twenty marines. Hiero, King of Syracuse, caused to be built, by Archias, the Corinthian shipwright, under the supervision of Archimedes, a vessel which appeared to have been armed for war, and sumptuously fitted for a pleasure yacht, and yet was ultimately used to

carry corn; the dimensions were not recorded, but as there were twenty banks of oars, and three masts, the timber for the mainmast, after being in vain sought for in Italy, being brought from England, and the cargo was sixty thousand measures of corn, besides vast quantities of provisions, &c., for the crew, the dimensions must have exceeded those of any ships of the present day; indeed, Hiero, finding that none of the surrounding harbours sufficed to receive his leviathan, loaded it with corn, and presented the vessel with its cargo to Ptolemy, king of Egypt, and on arriving at Alexandria it was hauled ashore, and nothing more was recorded respecting it. Taking these dimensions as the bases for calculating the tonnage, by the old law, or builders' measurement, and, in accordance with the report of the late Tonnage Committee, taking the average tonnage of ships as amounting to twenty-seven hundredths of the external bulk, measured to the medium height of the upper deck, the burthen and cubic content of these vessels would be:—

|  | Tonnage.          | External Bulk. |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| Ptolemaeus Philopater's ship = 6,145 tons,     | 899,700 cubic ft. |                |
| Noah's ark ... ..                              | 11,905 "          | 1,589,000 "    |
| and contrasting with these a few modern ships: |                   |                |
| Great Western ... ..                           | 1,212 tons,       | 161,100 "      |
| Great Britain ... ..                           | 3,445 "           | 446,570 "      |
| Arctic (American packet) ...                   | 2,745 "           | 356,333 "      |
| Himalaya ... ..                                | 3,528 "           | 457,332 "      |

and, calculating by the same rules, taking the dimensions given in the prospectus of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company, their

Proposed iron ship ... .. = 22,942 tons, 2,973,593 cubic ft.

It was, however, stated that this vessel was intended to be 10,000 tons register, which might be correct, if it was built on the cellular system, and was measured internally, by the present law. This latter example was only given to demonstrate the advantage of adopting the proposed system of using the mean of external and internal measurement as the basis of the calculation of the tonnage, and of recording all the dimensions and the scale of burthen on the certificate of survey. It was admitted, that there was much ingenuity in the proposed system of descriptive measurement, but it was argued, that the present law rather favoured the construction of well-formed vessels, as the fiscal tax fell lighter upon them than upon bad ships. The utility, in a scientific point of view as well as commercially, was strongly urged, of adopting a system of measurement which should record the dimensions, capacity, and scantling, and form a classification of the comparative merits of all ships. It was suggested, that the discussion would be more useful if it was, for the present, confined to the consideration of the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed large classes of sailing ships and steamers, with respect to their scientific construction, their capabilities for navigation, and their commercial economy, as the law of measurement could scarcely be combined with these questions. The first point then considered, was the effect of heavy seas upon vessels of 400 to 600 feet long. The waves of the Atlantic were stated, by some captains of American 'Liners,' to attain an elevation of about 20 feet, with a length of 160 feet, and a velocity of 25 to 30 miles per hour. Dr. Scoresby, in his paper 'On Atlantic Waves,' gave about the same mean elevation for the waves in rather a hard gale a-head; on one occasion, with a hard gale and heavy squalls, some few waves attained a height of 43 feet, with a length of nearly 600 feet, and a velocity exceeding 30 miles an hour. Other authorities assumed even more than those heights and distances. The amount of strength to resist the impact of such waves must vary with the length and size of a ship, and the materials of which it was constructed; and as the experience of the Britannia Bridge showed that a weight of 460 tons, at a velocity of 30 miles per hour, could be borne by a cellular tube of 460 feet span, it was demonstrated, that by the use of iron, almost any amount of strength could be given to a vessel, and as stability could be imparted by proper proportions, efficient vessels could be built of any dimensions, as had been

exemplified by the *Great Britain*, which, after remaining ashore on rocks for several months, had been got off without serious injury. There were, however, objections to the use of iron alone for vessels; therefore many other systems had been essayed, such as all English oak, pine of large scantling, three thicknesses of diagonal planking, and iron framing with stout planking; this last combination, with the addition of fore and aft ties and watertight bulkheads, was advocated for efficiency and economy. The proportions of about six breadths for the length were insisted upon, and it was noticed that these were given as the dimensions of Noah's ark, as recorded in Holy Writ. The effect of heavy waves upon vessels of great length was discussed, particularly when in the trough of the sea, and without sufficient "way on" to enable the rudder to act; under such circumstances it was suggested that there might be a bow rudder, and a propeller so placed as to assist the action of the helm in bringing the vessel round. The necessity for the formation of capacious docks and harbours expressly for such large vessels was pointed out, as, until that was done, they must load and discharge in the river or roadstead. It was admitted that the proposed record of construction would be of scientific value, but the advantage of making it a part of the ordinary register was questioned. The full consideration of the best forms of fishing and life boats, which had been incidentally mentioned, was strongly urged, on scientific grounds and in the interests of humanity. The questions of what were, scientifically, the limits of bulk of vessels, and power of engines, and, commercially, the most profitable dimensions for carrying cargoes and passengers, bearing in mind the period of inactivity whilst loading in port, were shown to be the main points for useful consideration, as it was as much the province of the engineer to consider the commercial result, as the details of execution of any proposed construction or plan of operations. The innovations proposed by Mr. Roberts, and illustrated by his models, were examined. An examination was made of the project for transmitting letters between Holyhead and Dublin at a speed of 22½ statute miles per hour;—of that for communicating between New York and Liverpool in six days, at an average speed of 22 nautical miles per hour;—and for steaming to Calcutta and back, without re-coaling, traversing a distance of about 25,000 nautical miles, at an average speed of 15 nautical miles per hour; using elaborate calculations and tabulated results, based on the duty performed by H.M.S. *Rattler*, with a given power, and under known conditions. Objections were raised to accepting 7½ knots per hour as the data for the present average rate of speed of ocean steamers; it was urged that such an average must have been derived from the voyages of steamers of old date, and without regard to the later results deduced from the performances of the Cunard and the Collins lines of steamships. The propriety of taking the *Rattler* as a model steamer was questioned, especially as the data were not given for selecting that vessel; it being argued that the *Rattler* had not performed a series of long voyages under every variable line of immersion, or under such changes of weather and states of the sea, as to furnish data for such important deductions. The advantage of increasing the proportion of length to breadth was apparent, if it was admitted that the cargo-bearing capacity of a vessel was thus augmented, without materially affecting her direct resistance through the water, supposing her midship section to remain unaltered. The proper proportion of length to breadth for an efficient ocean steamer was, however, an intricate question. Taking the *Ware Queen* as an example: the length of that vessel had been stated to be thirteen times her beam; now such proportions might answer well for the river Thames, and a great speed might be attained, but such a vessel would, under certain circumstances, be unfit to navigate the British Channel. The same might be said of the American river steamers, which were reported to have attained almost fabulous rates of velocity; but such

proportions as theirs, if attempted in ocean steamers, would only induce failure and loss of the vessels in heavy gales in the open ocean.

NUMISMATIC.—*Nor. 24th.*—J. Lee, LL.D., in the chair. Mr. Vaux read a paper, communicated by W. B. Dickinson, Esq., of Leamington, containing an elaborate defence of 'ring money as a medium of exchange,' in reply to certain strictures on former papers by Mr. Dickinson, published by Mr. Vaux in the last number of the 'Numismatic Chronicle.' Mr. Dickinson commenced his paper by a definition of 'money,' which he considered to be "every article which is generally accepted in a community as a representative of property and a medium of exchange," whether this be bullion, jewels, cowrie shells, cloth of certain known lengths (as in Iceland), or masses of salt of a fixed weight; while, by barter, he understood "the exchange of one article for another, such articles being used or required for the necessities of life, and not laid by in store for the purchase of other commodities;" at the same time, he did not think it needful, to constitute the character of money, that articles should be adjusted to a certain definite and unchanging weight, or should consist of several sizes, as these are refinements and improvements, but do not affect the principle. Mr. Dickinson then proceeded to illustrate his view of money, from the circulation of various objects which he considered as falling under his definition of it; referring, in the first place, to various passages of the Bible, such as Gen. xiii. 2, where Abraham is said to have been "very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold"—as Gen. xvii. 13, where the bond-servant is called "he that is bought with thy money"—as Gen. xx. 16, where Abimelech gives Abraham "a thousand [pieces] of silver"—and as Gen. xxxiii. 3—20, where the cave of Macpelah is purchased for 400 shekels of silver, which, though passed by weight, are said to be "current money with the merchant." Mr. Dickinson noticed next the form in which the earlier nations kept their money, which he judged must have been of "such a character that it could be looped together like rings," a view which he deduced from the account of the money found in Benjamin's sack—from a picture in Sir Gardner Wilkinson's Egypt, copied from the walls of one of the catacombs in that country—from the story of Rebecca in Gen. xxiv. 22, and from that of the Midianites in Judges viii. 24. The same object of "looping together" Mr. Dickinson traced in the ancient gold rings of Ireland, the internal apertures of which are too small to have been used as finger, ear, or nose rings; while the same practice is still in vogue in China and Japan, and may be traced in the former country (if Mr. Williams is correct in his estimation of the dates of the Chinese dynasties) as early as B.C. 1118. The use of rings (at the present day) for money, Mr. Dickinson showed, from an anecdote mentioned by M. Bonomi, of the purchase of a slave from a Jolab dealer, while he stated that Lieut. Cruttenden (now assistant political agent at Aden) made use of ear-rings of silver, when trading with the Bedouins of Socotra. Mr. Denton, also, a missionary at Regent, near Sierra Leone, affirms that the gold rings common in that part of Africa are rarely used as ornaments, but generally as money in trading. In the conclusion of his paper, Mr. Dickinson stated that he was equally at variance with Mr. Vaux on the subject of that species of coin termed "fish-hook money," which Mr. Vaux had affirmed to belong to Laristan, in Persia, and not, as Mr. Dickinson had in former papers asserted, to the island of Ceylon. Mr. Dickinson affirmed that in the island itself this coin was known by the names of 'coco-seed,' and 'dudamasi,' both of which mean 'hook-money,' that it is proved from Knox's Ceylon to have been current there more than two centuries ago; and that, though rarely, instances have been found of such money bearing a stamp upon them resembling the character of the Devanagari alphabet.—Mr. John Evans read a paper 'On the attribution of a new

type in silver to Dulnovellannus,' in which he expressed a doubt as to the correctness of the former attribution by Taylor Combe, of the coins which he calls that of Dunnerix, a chief of the Cédunans, who is mentioned by Caesar. On the contrary, Mr. Evans believes that the coin in question is not of Gaulish but of British origin; chiefly because, in the vast collection of Gaulish coins in the Bibliothèque Nationale at Paris, which has been carefully catalogued by M. Duchalais, no similar specimen is found, while there is a considerable resemblance in type and workmanship, both of the obverse and reverse, to coins of acknowledged British fabric.—Mr. Bergey read a letter from Mr. Webster, accompanying some impressions in wax of new and unpublished varieties of rare coins. Of these, one was of Vetrano, the peculiarity being that it is spelt 'Vertrano,' another, of a very rare coin of Alexander Tyrannus, struck in Africa; a third, of an unique type of the *Gens Cosconia*, on which Hercules is represented capturing the stag from Eurystheus; and the fourth, a halfpenny of Edward IV., which has not yet been made public.—The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society—E. H. Bunbury, Esq.; W. Hardy, Esq.; and Don Antonio de Delgada.

## MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Monday.**—Entomological, 8 p.m.  
 — Chemical, 8 p.m.  
 — School of Mines.—(Dr. Hofmann on Chemistry, 10 a.m.)—(Professor Hunt on Physics, 12 a.m.)
- Tuesday.**—Linnæan, 8 p.m.  
 — Horticultural, 3 p.m.  
 — Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—(Mr. John Thornhill Harrison on the Drainage of the District on the South of the Thames.)  
 — Pathological, 8 p.m.  
 — School of Mines.—(Dr. Percy on Metallurgy, 11 a.m.)—(Professor Smyth on Mineralogy, 2 p.m.)
- Wednesday.**—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.  
 — Ethnological, 8 p.m.—(1. On the Different Races occupying the provinces of Asterabad and Mazanderan on the Southern Shores of the Caspian Sea, by the Baron de Bode; 2. On an Anglo-Saxon Skull exhumed by J. Y. Akerman, Esq., F.S.A., from an Anglo-Saxon cemetery near Salisbury, by the Hon. Secretary.)  
 — School of Mines.—(Professor Hunt on Physics, 12 a.m.)—(Professor Smyth on Mineralogy, 2 p.m.)
- Thursday.**—Royal, 8 p.m.  
 — Antiquaries, 8 p.m.  
 — School of Mines.—(Dr. Hofmann on Chemistry, 10 a.m.)—(Professor Smyth on Mineralogy, 2 p.m.)
- Friday.**—Astronomical, 8 p.m.  
 — Philological, 8 p.m.  
 — School of Mines.—(Dr. Percy on Chemistry, 10 a.m.)—(Professor Hunt on Physics, 12 a.m.)
- Saturday.**—Medical, 8 p.m.  
 — Royal Botanic, 4 p.m.

## FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Paris, November 24th.

"SPIRIT rappings" have for some time been all the rage here, and are so still; and the same is the case to a greater or less extent in all parts of France. The modern French are wiser far in their generation than was Hotespur in his. That fiery gentleman declared that he could call spirits from the vasty deep, as well as any other man, but that he wasn't at all sure that they would come when called for; whereas the Frenchman has only to place his fingers on the edge of a mahogany table for a little while, and, hey presto! a spirit forthwith rushes into it, and, by rapping the table's legs on the floor, answers any questions that are put in any language; nay, more, the spirit will, with a little coaxing, not only reveal the future, but tell how Voltaire is getting on in the realms of Pluto, and Mahomet's opinion on the Eastern question. You will hardly credit what I am about to say, but it is the fact—this tomfoolery has gained an extraordinary number of fervent believers in the superior classes, and amongst them are not a few who have won distinction in literature, in science, or in the political arena. And such is the terrible effect that it has created, that it has altogether weaned some persons from their ordinary avocations, has bewildered foolish women, and has

actually sent an eminent Paris banker, a departmental prefect, and two or three high functionaries, stark staring mad. Moral philosophers are racking their wits to account for the spread and the success of the extraordinary delusion; but have not yet so far as I know been able to do so satisfactorily. They, however, seem to think that it is a sign of the times which bodes no good—that it is the shadow of coming political and social catastrophes, with which the present state of France seems big.

Of course the aforesaid "rappings" have given rise to a multitude of publications, of all sizes and shapes, and all degrees of literary merit. But there is but one that has created a really striking sensation, and that is a good sized volume of a M. Victor Hennequin, formerly a member of the National Assembly, entitled 'Let us Save Human Kind.' This work, the author gravely tells the public, was written under the dictation of a spirit called the "soul of the earth" (*l'âme de la terre*), which took possession of his dining-table, and entered into familiar converse on things past, present, and future, with him and his wife; after which the soul, to show its regard for him, made him the vehicle of communicating to mankind in the western portion of Europe the means which God has fixed on for their salvation from their present straits, and from the political and social dangers which beset them. Whether the blasphemy or the absurdity of this be the greater it would be hard to say; but, blasphemous and absurd as it is, it has made all the Parisian population gape with mingled surprise and admiration. According to Hennequin, the "soul of the earth" declares that it is only by the adoption of the Fourier system of social philosophy that the world can be saved, though it is notorious that the folly, extravagance, licentiousness, and impracticability of that system, exceed those of any of the nostrums concocted by socialist reformers of late years, for the benefit of France in particular, and of all the world in general. Perhaps the solemn proclamation of such a wild means of salvation may lead to the suspicion that the aforesaid M. Hennequin is a ranting lunatic, or that he has only brought into operation his "spirit of the earth" as the means of attracting attention to the exposition of certain peculiar doctrines which he has thought right to adopt. For myself I cannot venture to say which of these suppositions is the true one; but I am sure that the people of Paris prove themselves most egregious simpletons in allowing M. Hennequin, whether madman or impostor, to bamboozle them as he has done. *Que voulez vous, however!*—

"The boldest horse will oft grow cool,  
 The dullest will show fire.  
 The friar will often play the fool;  
 The fool will play the friar."

and so, surely, the *peuple le plus spirituel de la terre*, as with exquisite modesty they call themselves, may be allowed to go mad now and then, especially as a grinding despotism, by preventing political activity, and crushing literature, has left their minds unoccupied.

M. Tricoupi's 'History of the Greek Revolution,' which was very favourably noticed in a recent number of the 'Gazette,' has attracted considerable attention in the literary and political circles of this city; first, as a brilliant contribution to the modern literature of Greece, and next as an exposure of Turkish oppression and insolence over a glorious though fallen Christian nation,—an exposure calculated to diminish that singular enthusiasm which it is the fashion just now in France, as well as in England, to display for the Mussulmans. The striking literary merits of the work not only recommend it to every scholar, but cause the hope to be entertained that modern Greek will henceforth receive from the studious and educated that attention which, according to Professor Blackie (as reported in the last 'Gazette') and other competent persons, it deserves, as one of the noblest living languages of Europe. These events, at the same time, render it very desirable that a translation of the work should be made, in order to give at least some idea of it to the widest possible circle of readers. If I am correctly informed, one of our

principal Hellenists has already assumed the office of translator. And, in a political point of view, it is much to be wished that his translation should appear without delay, so that people in England and France, before rushing into a sanguinary war for the Turks, may, by seeing what the Turks were, judge what they are.

## VARIETIES.

**Drawing Instruction.**—The increased demand for elementary instruction in drawing throughout the country has led to a circular being recently issued by the Board of Trade to the masters of schools in connexion with the Department of Science and Art. The circular announces that the object of the Department is "not so much the acquirement of drawing, or relating to fine art and the encouragement of artists, decorative or otherwise, as the promotion of accurate observation by the eye, a habit of seeing correctly, and a rapid means of explanation where writing fails, useful in every relation of life." It is, in short, as a branch of general education that the Department seeks to encourage instruction in drawing. Useful hints and suggestions are thrown out for the guidance of masters, and information is in return requested on the result of practical experience in the schools of various localities. Mr. Cole, in behalf of the Department, desires the assistance of masters in compiling sets of the most useful drawing copies, consisting of objects likely to be known and recognised by children of operatives, as well as manufacturing as of agricultural districts. A sum of money will be paid by the Department for any drawings selected for insertion in the official copy books. We are glad to find these and other practical and efficient steps being taken by the authorities of the Department of Science and Art for promoting this important branch of national education. The numerous applications to the Board from schools in all parts of England, and also in Scotland and Ireland, for drawing materials and examples, offered according to the rules of the Department, show the popular appreciation of the desire of Government to assist local efforts.

**Secret Transmission by Telegraph.**—Occasionally for some years we have heard of modes of secret transmission of messages by electric telegraph, but we are not aware that any of those recorded in our columns have ever been matured or brought into general practice. The 'Official Venice Gazette' states that the Olympic Academy of Vicenza, having carefully examined the 'discovery' made by their fellow-citizen Tremechini (mentioned about six months ago) of electric telegraphy by secret transmission, has publicly declared it to be a most successful invention. The commission appointed to test its efficacy was composed of the councillor-delegate of the podesta, the superior commissary, and the academic council. The first experiment consisted in sending and receiving a dispatch in the common way, without secrecy. In the second experiment, a despatch was sent secretly, and the answer received in the same manner, by the aid of the new apparatus. In the third, a despatch was sent openly, and the answer received secretly, to show that the secret apparatus might be used or suspended at will. The results of the inquiry are said to show—1st, That the apparatus of Tremechini may be applied to Morse's telegraph; 2nd, That when the despatch is sent secretly, it can only be received so, any fraud in that respect being subject to immediate detection; 3rd, That secrecy may be suspended or applied at pleasure. This rather obscure account of it seems to savour a little of an *old* mode by means of invisible marks or writing, afterwards brought out by secret chemical re-agents.—*Builder.*

**Imperial Library of St. Petersburg.**—The formation of the Catalogue advances with rapidity. From the middle of 1850 to the end of 1852, 200,000 volumes were catalogued, which is a very good result. The cataloguing of the books is accomplished in a triple manner—in the order of contents, alphabetically, and as they are arranged upon the shelves.



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